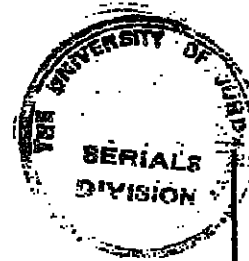


## Shahal could see Palestinian state

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Police Minister Moshe Shahal said on Friday he could envisage creation of a Palestinian state on terms dictated by Israel. Mr. Shahal, a member of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's Labour Party, said he was not deviating from official policy, which favours something less than the state sought by Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. "I must say that in all candour four-and-a-half years ago, immediately after the Gulf war, I was the first to say that a Palestinian entity will be established," he told Israel Radio. "I said in a certain situation, in conditions which would be accepted by us, there could be a situation where there would be a Palestinian entity which is also a state on terms which we would dictate." He cited the solution favoured by some Israeli politicians for a confederation between Palestinians and a neighbouring state such as Jordan. "Whoever speaks of a confederation speaks of an alliance in fact between two states and the word is perhaps a pretty word, but it embraces also recognition of two entities which have an independent political status," Mr. Shahal said.

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# King to meet Rabin in U.S. on July 25

## Clinton announces summit, hails it as reflection of courageous leadership

Combined agency dispatches

WASHINGTON — His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin will meet in Washington on July 25, President Bill Clinton announced Friday.

"This historic meeting is another step forward toward achievement of a comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East," Mr. Clinton said.

"The meeting will build on the dramatic progress made in the trilateral U.S.-Israel-Jordan meetings here in Washington last month, and King Hussein's recent declaration in parliament that he was prepared to meet with Prime Minister Rabin," Mr. Clinton added.

In Amman, King Hussein Friday accepted Mr. Clinton's invitation (see separate story). The King had expressed his readiness to bring forward the date for a meeting with Mr. Rabin if the United States gave guarantees of aid for Jordan, agencies reported.

Israeli government spokesman Oded Ben Ami said "the prime minister received this invitation Friday and immediately announced his acceptance of it."

The summit meeting "reflects the courageous leadership and the bold vision which both King Hussein and Prime Minister Rabin have displayed as they work

together to create a new future for their people and for all the region," Mr. Clinton said. "On behalf of all Americans I salute their commitment to peace."

Mr. Clinton also said that when the Jordanian and Israeli leaders were in Washington for the meeting, both would address a joint session of Congress and join the Clintons for a dinner at the White House.

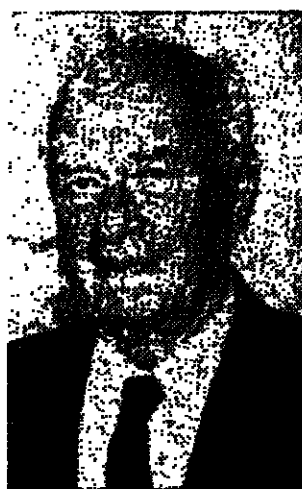
Secretary of State Warren Christopher departs Sunday for the Middle East, as another sign of the U.S. president's personal commitment to the peace process, Mr. Clinton said.

The continuing Israeli-Syrian negotiations also are very important to the United States, Mr. Clinton added. "I am committed to working to achieve a breakthrough in those talks as soon as possible so that we can make the dream of a lasting peace of the brave a reality," Mr. Clinton said.

The high-profile summit in the U.S. capital would boost Mr. Clinton's role in the Middle East peace process and could help polish his foreign policy record which has faced failures in Somalia, Bosnia and Haiti.

Israel and the Palestinians worked out their own bilateral peace pact last year with the help of Norwegian diplomats.

But then Mr. Clinton stepped in.



## Address to U.S. Congress very significant for economic ties

By Nermeen Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The historic meeting between His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on July 25 in Washington D.C. will be even more significant when seen against the backdrop of an appointment for both leaders to address a joint session of the U.S. Congress.

According to well-informed Jordanian sources, "very few heads of state have ever done that," and the meeting may be the first step in encouraging the U.S.

legislature to approve proposals for improved bilateral economic relations between Jordan and the U.S.

A well-informed source familiar with the working of the U.S. Congress told the Jordan Times that "addressing a joint session of Congress, in U.S. protocol, is very prestigious and very significant politically."

Another source said that the U.S. views the opportunity to meet with a joint session of Congress as a "tremendous privilege and an indication of respect for a world leader."

The only Arab leader to

have ever addressed such a session was Egyptian President Anwar Sadat when he reached the Camp David accords during the administration of President Carter.

No such meeting was arranged for Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat when he signed the declaration of principles in Washington on Sept. 13, 1993.

The fact that King Hussein's schedule includes such an appointment, the sources said, "is very significant."

However, they declined com-

## Jordan accepts U.S. invitation hoping to advance peace quest

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said Friday in a statement to Jordan Television that His Majesty King Hussein had accepted an invitation by U.S. President Bill Clinton to visit Washington on July 25 and meet at the White House with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

The King and Mr. Rabin will address the U.S. Congress.

Prince Hassan said the King accepted the invitation "as long as the meeting would be directly connected with moves to give momentum to achieving just and comprehensive peace."

The Prince said that the Washington meeting would only "constitute an important step on the long and arduous road to peace acceptable to the future generations."

In Jordan's view, the achievement of peace comes from a commitment to honour all the items on the common Jordanian-Israeli agenda concluded on Sept. 14, 1993.

King Hussein reaffirmed in an address during an inspection visit to the artillery corps of the Fourth Royal Mechanised Division Thursday Jordan's principled stands with

regard to national rights, renewing Jordan's commitment to a just and comprehensive peace.

"Jordan would not sign a peace treaty before securing Jordan's full rights and before tackling all outstanding issues included in the common agenda," the King said.

The King noted that Jordan has been involved in all pan-Arab issues but was targeted by the hostile forces.

"Jordan can only sign a peace treaty after it has secured all its rights and has tackled all issues on the common agenda concerning the land, the water and everything," he said. "Jordan can not cede any inch of land ... in fact the usurped Jordanian land is bigger in area than the Gaza Strip."

"Jordan has shouldered a far bigger burden than others in the long struggle and was able to save the looted and pillaged lands which targeted not only Palestine but also Jordan," he said.

"We used to say that any aggression against any part of the Arab World was an aggression against us and we signed the joint defence pact. Before the 1967 war we placed the leadership of the Jordanian Armed Forces under the Egyptian and Arab

command at the time, and we entered the battle employing all our potentials, but the result was ... we all know and we live until now ...," said the King.

Referring to the recent developments in the region, the King said:

"The upheavals in the Arab World had their impact on all the things of which we were afraid of and we live through at the moment."

"If matters go in the right direction we will find that Israel will become a drop in an ocean. But we have to know how to proceed and to attain our objectives," the King said.

With regard to Syria, the Israelis are ready to withdraw from the Golan Heights, and are ready to withdraw from the south of Lebanon, the King said.

But he added: "We were not aware of details concerning Syria and Lebanon until I went to Washington and we were informed about them."

The King added that Jordan had always been behind pan-Arab coordination "but it seemed that they wanted coordination the way they wished and in timing of their own."

(Continued on page 12)

## 2 Palestinians shot in Hebron clash

HEBRON (AFP) — Two Palestinian youths were shot and slightly wounded on Friday during clashes with the Israeli army in the West Bank town of Hebron, Palestinian hospital officials said. Soldiers opened fire and directed teargas at stone-throwing youths in the town centre. A soldier received slight head wounds from the stones, military sources said.

## Media triumph seen in Lebanon

BEIRUT (AFP) — The temporary lifting of a ban on unofficial news broadcasts marked a political defeat for Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri and could plunge the government into crisis, opposition newspapers said here Friday. The Lebanese parliament on Thursday voted overwhelmingly to allow private radio and television stations to broadcast news and political programmes, in the face of government opposition. Mr. Hariri, who opposed parliament's resolution, failed to attend the heated debate due to sickness. A headline in the opposition daily Al Safir, close to Syria, said: "Political defeat for Hariri in parliament, media win the battle by temporarily recovering political freedom." Nida Al Watan, a newspaper staunchly hostile to the prime minister, said the government was now "under threat after Hariri's defeat."

## Russian envoy arrives in Syria

DAMASCUS (AFP) — An envoy of Russian President Boris Yeltsin has arrived in Damascus for talks with Syrian leaders on the Middle East peace process, Russian officials said Friday. Viktor Possovalyuk, who heads the Russian Foreign Ministry's Middle East and North Africa section, was due to meet Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa. The Russian envoy arrived late Thursday, after attending a meeting of the multilateral Middle East steering committee in Tabarka, Tunisia (see page 2). Mr. Possovalyuk told reporters in Tabarka he hoped Syria and Lebanon could join the multilateral talks.

## Qudah reelected JPA chief in heavily personalised clash

By Natasha Bukhari  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Sufaiman Qudah, the incumbent president of the Jordan Press Association (JPA), yesterday won reelection for a second two-year term after a tough battle with two prominent journalists who eventually combined forces in a bid to beat him.

Mr. Qudah, who is the leading Arabic daily Al Ra'i's chief editor, won presidency of the 258-member association with 128 votes in the second round of voting, beating columnist and writer, Fakhri Kaware, who won 110 votes. Khaled Mahadin, another prominent writer and a former Royal Court and Prime Ministry adviser, withdrew after he won only 63 votes in the first round against Mr. Qudah's 114 and Mr. Qawar's 64.

Mr. Qudah's support was drawn mainly from the two major Arabic dailies, Al Ra'i

and Al Dustour, whose journalists, about 100 members of the JPA usually vote in bloc against independent candidates and those who work for Petra, the official news agency, with about 70 votes.

Journalists say that Mr. Mahadin's withdrawal came upon a previous agreement between the two independents, whereby the contender with less votes in the first round would withdraw in favour of the other. The two had campaigned on a platform of standings up to the domination of Al Ra'i and Dustour establishments of the JPA. Both had written regular columns for Al Ra'i and had also worked for Al Dustour in the career.

Mr. Kaware, a former deputy (in the 11th Parliament) and currently president of the Arab Writers Society, ran mainly on an anti-normalisation (with Israel) platform, and was backed by a rainbow coalition of leftists and Arab nationalists. Mr.

Mahadin, on the other hand, was supported mainly by journalists working for Petra, which he headed for nine months last year.

Messers Mahadin and Qawar had fought what they called "the powerful monopoly employers have over their employees," demanding "rights for journalists" that they do not enjoy now.

Elected for the association's council were three JPA members representing private sector newspapers, three newspapers' owners, and three representing the government-owned Petra.

Those elected from private sector newspapers were: Samir Hiyari of Al Ra'i with 127 votes, Mousa Hawarneh of Al Dustour with 113 votes, and Mohammad Du'meh, also from Al Dustour, with 94 votes.

Newspaper owners elected for the JPA council were: Fakhri Abu Hamdeh (Al Faris magazine) with 140



Sufaiman Al Qudah votes, Islamist Hilmi Asmar (Al Sabeel) with 112 votes, and Seif Al Sharif (Al Dustour) with 111 votes.

From Petra, elected for the JPA's council were Mamoun Baidoun with 130 votes, Mohammad Salem Al Abbadi with 95 votes, and Ali Abu Tabanja with 82 votes.

Out of the 25 JPA members eligible to vote, six failed to attend the polls.

## Israel seen to break new ground with Syria

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel has taken its biggest step yet to try to break a deadlock with Syria ahead of a peace mission by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, officials and commentators said on Friday.

They described as "far-reaching" remarks by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres on Thursday that Israel had repeatedly accepted the concept of Syrian sovereignty in the Golan Heights since their seizure by Israel in the 1967 war.

Mr. Christopher is expected in the region within days to try again to bridge the Israeli-Syrian gap. Mr. Peres's remarks kicked up a political storm in Israel with critics accusing him of ceding the strategic Heights without getting a thing in return.

"Israel yesterday took a bigger and more far-reaching step towards Syria than ever before, in an effort to take the peace talks out of stalemate," diplomatic correspondent Aluf Ben wrote in the newspaper Haaretz about Mr. Peres's comments.

Mr. Peres had said: "We admitted to Syrian sovereignty on the Golan Heights time after time."

He made the comments even as the Middle East peace spotlight focused on the first negotiations in the region between Israel and Jordan due to be attended next week by Mr. Peres, Mr. Christopher and their Jordanian counterpart, Abdul Salam Majali.

To support his argument, Mr. Peres cited a government decision to negotiate with Syria just after the 1967 war on the basis of the international border and Israeli security needs.

At the time Syria refused to negotiate, and in 1981 Israel effectively extended Israeli law to the strategic Heights. But on Friday, Mr. Peres's Deputy Yossi Beilin suggested it was time to roll back the clock to the 1967 government decision.

"Now that there is such a big change and there is a readiness on the Arab side to negotiate with us on peace, I believe that the old resolution of '67 is still valid," Mr. Beilin told Israel radio.

An Israeli official speaking on condition he not be identified said Mr. Peres apparently wanted to break an impasse in Israel's three-year-old peace talks with Syria.

The talks have been stuck with Israel refusing to say how much land it will return until Syria commits to "full peace"

## Yemen announces emergency measures

ADEN (Agencies) — The Yemeni government on Friday announced it would disband militia groups in Aden and take immediate steps to restore water and electricity in a package of emergency measures to stabilise the situation in the war-ravaged country.

Public services have been brought to a standstill in Aden since northern forces captured the southern port city last week, ending the civil war which broke out on May 5.

In a statement issued after two days of meetings, the government announced "immediate, urgent and dissuasive measures aimed at ending illegal actions targeting public and private property."

It was referring to an orgy of looting in which public offices were stripped bare and shops ransacked.

But witnesses said the pillaging had subsided Friday. The government decided to "disband all militias or private armed gangs, including those loyal to political

parties, along with popular committees for the defence of Aden."

It said the security apparatus in the city would be rebuilt "on new bases to enable the restoration of stability and calm."

"Urgent measures" were also announced to tackle shortages of water, food and electricity.

Supplies of drinking water would be restored in Aden and Al Hutha, 20 kilometres north of the city, and pumping stations repaired.

In Geneva, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said Aden's 500,000 residents were still suffering from severe water shortages.

Distribution of drinking water was "insufficient," an ICRC spokesman said. The ICRC is still repairing Aden's only water pumping station at Bir Nasser, 15 kilometres to the north, which was destroyed by fighting.

The pumping station could remain out of action for

several weeks, the spokesman said.

Residents are collecting water from some 40 wells in Aden, and the ICRC is bringing in water from the Lahej region to the north, using seven tanker trucks, but supplies were still "a big problem," the spokesman said.

The government ordered the repair of electricity networks in various parts of the country, notably Aden, Al Hutha, Zinjibar, Dharmar, Amran, Daleh and Shabwa.

It also said the Aden oil refinery, badly damaged in the fighting, would have to become operational again "within two weeks maximum."

Measures would be taken to restore telephone links between Aden and other regions, along with international lines.

The ports of Aden and Mukalla, 700 kilometres to the east, would be reopened, as would Aden international airport, which had been used by southern jets for launching attacks on the forces loyal to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

Other measures were envisaged for the administration and civil service, health and the environment, education, information and development of a market economy.

The government appealed for help from "fraternal and friendly" countries to deal with the ravages of the war, which it said was provoked by the southern "rebels" loyal to breakaway leader Ali Salem Al Beidi.

Mr. Saleh pledged Tuesday that life would return to normal "within 20 days."

The president is due to open the first post-war session of parliament in Sanaa Saturday, officials said in the Yemeni capital, adding that he would make "an important speech."

A leader of the Aden-based Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) said YSP deputies would attend parliament for the first time in many

(Continued on page 7)

## Arafat restakes Palestinian claim over Arab Jerusalem

GAZA (Agencies) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who for weeks had avoided all but religious reference to Jerusalem, reasserted a claim to the Holy City on Friday by saying Palestinians had a right to fly their flag over it.

Mr. Arafat also said Israel's closure of Jerusalem to Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip was an attempt to destroy their peace deal.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader — who took up residence in Gaza this week, cementing the May 4 launch of Palestinian rule in Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho — made the remarks before attending his first Friday prayer services in the Strip.

The imam at Omari mosque, the oldest and largest in Gaza, welcomed Mr. Arafat during his sermon, saying: "It is a good gesture that our president starts his life here by going to the mosque so that God will bless him."

Mr. Arafat made no statements at the mosque. He prayed quietly, surrounded by bodyguards and PLO officials.

Beforehand he reasserted Palestinian claims to Jerusalem and said its closure threatened peace.

"We have the right to raise the Palestinian flag over Jerusalem and the walls of Jerusalem and the churches of Jerusalem and the minarets of Jerusalem," Mr. Arafat said in a meeting with disabled veterans of the Palestinian uprising.

"This is my right," he added. Later he spoke of threats to the peace process.

"There are some attempts to destroy the peace deal — not only by the Hebron massacre but also by the closure of Jerusalem," Mr. Arafat told visiting Israeli Arabs and Druze led by Israeli Deputy Agriculture Minister Walid Sadiq.

Mr. Arafat said the settler who shot dead more than 30

Palestinians at prayer in a mosque in the West Bank town of Hebron on Feb. 25 had backed for his deed.

"The Ibrahim Mosque massacre was done by Baruch Goldstein but not as an individual act. There is an organisation behind it," Mr. Arafat said without elaborating. An Israeli inquiry into the massacre found Goldstein, who was killed by survivors, acted alone.

More than a year ago, after a spate of Arab attacks on Israelis, Israel barred Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip from entering Israel and Arab East Jerusalem, which Israel seized and "annexed" in 1967.

The closure is eased and tightened periodically but has never been lifted completely.

Mr. Arafat said Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin had promised to review the Jerusalem ban.

"(Jerusalem) cannot be under siege, preventing Mus-

(Continued on page 3)

سكنا من ليل



## Multilaterals continue to complement bilateral talks

**TABAKRA, Tunisia (USIA)** — The working groups of the Middle East Multilateral Steering Group "continue to complement the bilateral negotiations and acting as a catalyst for progress" toward peace, says Robert Pelletreau, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs.

Following steering group meeting in Tabakra, Tunisia, Mr. Pelletreau told a news conference that the group "welcomed the progress achieved in the bilateral talks, including the conclusion of the May 4 Gaza-Jericho agreement, and the establishment of the Palestinian Authority, and the Jordanian-Israeli agreement to intensify their bilateral negotiations in the region."

The Middle East Multilateral Steering Group met July 12-13 in Tabakra, Tunisia. The Steering Group, which is composed of core parties from the Middle East, the United States and Russia, as co-sponsors of the peace process, and extra-regional parties who have taken responsibility for the multilateral working groups, monitors, evaluates and guides the activities of all the working groups. All the participants contributed to a serious and fruitful dialogue on important organisational and substantive issues. They expressed their appreciation to the government of Tunisia for its invaluable contribution to the success of the peace process and for its gracious hosting of this meeting.

During this meeting, the Steering Group took note of the significant accomplishments in each working group since the Tokyo Steering Group meeting:

— The Arms Control and Regional Security Working Group approved the establishment of an ACRS communication network; the holding of a search and rescue demonstration in the Mediterranean; and continuing the efforts to finalise a document on security relations. The group also continued its discussions in such areas as verification and the concept of a Conflict Prevention/Regional Security Centre.

— The Environment Working Group approved further work on an environmental code of conduct and projects on oil contingencies in the upper Gulf of Aqaba, desertification and wastewater treatment in small communities.

— The Regional Economic Development Working Group drafted economic guidelines for regional cooperation, established a monitoring committee to monitor implementation of the Copenhagen Action Plan, and announced the establishment of a Peace Process Information Bank.

— The Refugee Working Group developed projects to alleviate the plight of Palestinian refugees and promote self-sufficiency, including projects such as the construction or renovation of training centres, schools and health clinics, plans to improve child welfare and public health and ongoing support for the Palestinian Bureau of Statistics. The group also encouraged progress in the area of family reunification.

— The Water Working Group approved an Omani proposal for a regional desalination research centre, an Israeli proposal to rehabili-

tate municipal water supply systems, and a proposal for wastewater treatment and re-use facilities.

— The Water Working Group also had an extensive discussion on the guidelines for regional development and a paper on the future of the region. Delegations provided extensive comments on both the substance and purpose of the documents and the method for completing them. The guidelines will serve as a framework of key elements for regional cooperation and will establish a common set of procedures for all the working groups. The paper on the future of the region will serve as a vision for what the Middle East region will look like in ten years and will assist the parties in setting specific priorities for the working groups.

The Steering Group approved the following venues for the next round of working groups, which will take place before the end of 1994:

- Arms Control and Regional Security Working Group — Tunisia.
- Environment Working Group — Bahrain.
- Refugee Working Group — Turkey.
- Regional Economic Development — Germany.
- Water — Greece.

Answering questions, Mr. Pelletreau said: "From the beginning of the multilateral process the co-sponsors and the multilateral Steering Group have encouraged Syria and Lebanon to join this process and to participate, and we continue to do so. We think it would be beneficial if they were able to participate in the work of the multilateral groups."



**HOUSING:** Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat (centre) flanked by administrator for the U.S. Affairs for International Development J. Rayan Atwood (left) and U.S. Ambassador to Tel Aviv Edward Djerejian, inaugurates the

first American-funded housing project that is to provide nearly 200 families with homes in the Jabalya refugee camp on the Gaza Strip (AFP photo)

## Somalia provided lessons for crises to come, ex-officials say

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Somalia became a symbol for many Americans of unwise and costly overseas involvement. But the operation also provided lessons for future crises such as Haiti and lived up to its name of "Operation Restore Hope," say U.S. officials who coped with Somali famine and chaos.

Early preventive diplomacy can avert crises. It said the international community missed at least three opportunities to act against former dictator Mohammad Siad Barre before he left Somalia in 1992 and the country slid into anarchy.

Need for United Nations reform, without "bureaucratic separation of humanitarian, military, political and financial activities... the U.N. will fail to become an effective instrument of humanitarian intervention."

Public consensus has to be strong enough to support the human costs, and U.S. intervention can only be undertaken and maintained with strong domestic political backing.

Decisions about intervention "will never be easy, and there is every expectation that the United States will face an increasing number of such decisions," for which contingency plans are needed.

If intervention is based on willingness to use force, "the rules of engagement must be along classic military lines rather than taking the traditional U.N. approach of firing only in self-defence... possibilities for non-U.N. multilateral action by regional and other groups should be developed."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### 'Rabin had secret meeting with Mahathir

**TEL AVIV (AFP)** — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin had a secret meeting with his Malaysian counterpart Mahathir Mohammad in Paris at the beginning of July. Israeli Television reported Thursday. The meeting took place when Mr. Rabin went to receive a U.N. peace prize with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat on July 6, the television said without elaborating. Mr. Mahathir paid an official visit to Paris between July 6 and 8. Israel and Malaysia do not have diplomatic relations. A recent Israeli television report said that Prince Abdullah Abdul Rahman, the younger brother of Malaysia's King Tuanku Ja'afar Abdul Rahman, paid a secret visit to Israel in mid-June, during which he met Mr. Rabin and Mr. Peres.

### Southeast Asia boosts Israeli arms sales

**TEL AVIV (AFP)** — Israeli arms exports jumped 20 per cent last year to reach \$1.8 billion, a sizeable amount due to southeast Asia, the Haaretz newspaper reported Friday. The daily, quoting military officials, said new markets in southeast Asia and Eastern Europe accounted for most of the sales. The officials did not give a breakdown of the figures or the countries, but noted that the world arms market was in recession and claimed Israel was the sole country to improve exports. Haaretz said between 1975 and 1992 Israel's arms exports leapt 75 per cent in world market which had contracted by 54 per cent. The Israeli Aircraft Industries, the country's biggest arms seller, has orders worth \$2.5 billion and a turnover last year of \$1.45 billion, three-quarters of which went to export. Israeli Military Industries, the second biggest public firm after aircraft industries, exported \$250 million of equipment last year or 60 per cent of turnover, the paper added. The Israeli government does not release figures for arms sales.

### FIDA party members cross to Jericho

**AMMAN (R)** — Fifteen senior members of Palestinian official Yasser Arafat's FIDA party, turned back by Israel on Wednesday, crossed the Jordan River to the Palestinian self-rule area of Jericho on Friday, a party spokesman said. "Their bus crossed the bridge to the other side (Israeli occupied West Bank) without any complications, after the Jordanian liaison officer confirmed from the Israeli side their names were there," a FIDA spokesman told Reuters. Three were turned back by the Jordanian bridge authorities because they had non-Jordanian travel documents. Israel prevented them from entering the Palestinian self-rule area of Jericho from Jordan on Wednesday after it imposed a ban on entry of Palestinian officials into self-rule areas. It was lifted on Thursday after four blacklisted Palestinians who entered Gaza with Yasser Arafat on Tuesday left the area on Israeli orders.

## U.S. senator accuses Syria and Iran of counterfeiting

**WASHINGTON (USIA)** — "Iran's state sponsored terrorism is attacking the value of the dollar," Congressman Bill McCollum said Wednesday at a hearing on redesigning the currency held by the House Banking Committee. Mr. McCollum said "the counterfeiting of \$100 bills by terrorist countries is a national security threat that we must not delay in addressing."

The Iranian responsibility for counterfeiting \$100 bills is not based on speculation," he said, countering charges levelled by Banking Committee Chairman Henry Gonzalez.

Since the July 1992 Terrorism Task Force report, "Iran, Syria and the Trail of Counterfeit Dollars," noted Mr. McCollum, "the spread of high-quality counterfeit money has continued to rise. There is every indication the problem will grow as distributors adopt new methods and routes for smuggling this bogus cash. International organised crime is a key player in the increase of high quality counterfeit \$100 bills from Iran, Syria and Lebanon, the primary sources of printing and organised distribution, into the West."

Mr. McCollum said that since 1991, the governments of Iran and Syria have been active in the production and dissemination of high-quality counterfeit American currency.

The \$100 bank notes are printed in the Iranian official mint in Tehran, using equipment and know-how purchased from the United States during the reign of the Shah. He said "The Iranians and their allies continue to improve the quality of their \$100 bills and keep at least one step ahead of the counter-measures developed in the West."

"Since 1993, these \$100 bills, as well as illegal drugs, have become the primary currency for the expanding international system that sustains the growing nuclear trade for the radical states of the Middle East," McCollum said. "These states provide the Italian mafia with counterfeit dollars and drugs at a reduced price as payment for nuclear goods."

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<b>JORDAN TELEVISION</b> Tel: 72111-19 <b>PROGRAMME TWO</b> 17:00 Coup De Bleu Dans L'Etoile 17:11 Fantomette 17:30 Le Monde Sous Marin 18:30 News in French 18:45 News in Urdu 19:00 News in Hebrew 19:05 World Cup Soccer Match 20:00 News in Arabic 21:30 The Fresh Prince Of Bel-Air 21:30 The Campbells 22:00 News in English 22:20 Feature Film: "Laura Lansing Slept Here"		<b>TERMANIA Church Tel: 62266</b> Church of the Annunciation Tel. 62541 Anglican Church Tel. 630851. Tel. 628543 Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 71331 Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261 St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751 Assyrian International Church Tel. 652526 Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 524328 German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195 The Lutheran Church Tel. 654932 Church of Nazareth Tel. 615691 The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295	
<b>PRAYER TIMES</b> 04:03 Fajr 05:35 Sunrise 12:41 Dhuhur 16:22 Asr 19:48 Maghreb 21:29 Isha  <b>CHURCHES</b> St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sreelich Tel. 810740 Assembly of God Church, Tel. 612785 St. Joseph Church Tel. 624900 Church of the Annunciation Tel. 617440 De la Salle Church Tel. 661757		<b>USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS</b> <b>NIGHT DUTY</b> AMMAN: Dr. Hanna Mansour 750197 Dr. Farouq Hour 786680 Dr. Khalid Khou 810715 Dr. Salah Al Iswid 649028 Fires pharmacy 661912 Ferdous pharmacy 778336 Al Asema pharmacy 637055 Nabouth pharmacy 626672 Al Salam pharmacy 636730 Yaouab pharmacy 644945 Shmiciini pharmacy 637660 Najib pharmacy 847632  <b>ERBID:</b> Dr. Ali Al Shogairi 246140 Alqabla pharmacy (—)  <b>ZARQA:</b> Dr. Rajeh Matar 901290 Khalifah pharmacy 985417	
<b>WEATHER</b> Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.  It will be fine getting cool at night with winds westerly moderate to active. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.  Min./Max. temp. Amman 17 / 28 Aqaba 23 / 34 Deserts 16 / 31 Jordan Valley 30 / 35  Yesterday's high temperatures:		<b>EMERGENCIES</b> Food Control Centre 637111 Civil Defence Department 661111 Civil Defence Emergency 630341 Rescue 199 Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777 Fire Brigade 891238 Blood Bank 775121 Traffic Police 843402 Highway Police 896300 Public Security Department 63021 Hotel Complaints 605800 Price Complaints 661176 Water and Sewerage 897467 Amman Municipality 787111 Complaints 897467 Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121 Overseas Calls 010230 Central Amman Telephone 623101 Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101 Jordan Television 771111 Radio Jordan 774111 Water Authority 680109 Jordan Electricity Authority 815615  <b>HOSPITALS</b> AMMAN: Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 642816 Akileh Maternity, J. Amn 642412 Jabal Amman Maternity 636140 Malhas, J. Amman 636140 Palestine, Shmeisani 6641714 Shmeisani Hospital 845845 University Hospital 6672739 Al-Mushar Hospital 6612737 Al-Ahli, Abdali 6612737 Italian, Al-Mahajra 7710123 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 7711126 Army, Marika 9161175 Queen Alia Hospital 60224050 Amal Hospital 674155 ZARQA: Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323 Zarqa National Hospital (09)900560 Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732 Ibn Al Nafes Hospital (09)990990 ERBID: Princess Basma Hospital (02)255555 Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275 Ibn Al Nafes Hospital (02)247100 AQABA: Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111	
<b>FOR THE TRAVELLER</b> <b>QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT</b> This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.  <b>ARRIVALS</b> <b>Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)</b> 05:30 Jakarta, Singapore (RJ) 09:45 New Delhi (RJ) 10:15 Aqaba (RJ) 10:15 Dhahran (RJ) 10:15 Abu Dhabi, Doha (RJ) 10:30 Karachi, Dubai (RJ) 11:00 Beirut (RJ) 11:00 Colombo (RJ) 16:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ) 17:35 London (RJ) 18:25 Istanbul (RJ) 19:25 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ) 21:30 Berlin (RJ) 22:45 Cairo (RJ) 02:30 Madrid, Berlin (RJ) 08:30 Madrid (RJ)		<b>Other Flights (Terminal 2)</b> 04:20 Vienna (OA) 13:30 Muscat, Doha (GF) 15:45 Rome, Larnaca (AZ) 20:30 Paris, Damascus (AF) 21:30 Cairo (MS) 23:25 Amsterdam (KL)  <b>DEPARTURES</b> <b>Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)</b> 05:00 Frankfurt (add) (RJ) 06:45 Beirut (RJ) 08:00 Aqaba (RJ) 11:30 Berlin (add) (RJ) 12:30 Paris (RJ) 12:35 Istanbul (RJ) 12:55 Geneva, Brussels (RJ) 13:00 Madrid (add) (RJ) 13:25 London (RJ) 14:30 Madrid (RJ) 19:40 Cairo (RJ) 20:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ) 21:00 Larnaca (RJ) 21:30 Jeddah (RJ) 22:45 Damascus (RJ) 01:30 Dubai (RJ)  <b>Other Flights (Terminal 2)</b> 09:15 Beirut (ME) 13:30 Vienna (OA) 14:30 Abu Dhabi (RJ) 22:15 Cairo (MS) 23:25 Damascus, Paris (AF) 09:25 Amsterdam (KL)	
<b>MARKET PRICES</b> Upper/lower price in fils per kg. Apple 300 / 400 Apricots 800 / 700 Banana (Makassar) 600 Cabbage 140 / 80 Carrot 220 / 150 Cobra 1300 / 800 Cherry 1200 / 700 Cauliflower 240 / 200 Cucumbers (large) 90 / 50 Cucumbers (small) 200 / 120 Eggplant 160 / 100 Fig 480 / 380 Garlic 680 / 500 Grapes 600 / 380 Lemon 600 / 450 Marrow (large) 100 / 40 Marrow (small) 180 / 120 Mushroom 700 / 600 Okra 300 / 200 Orange 300 / 400 Onion (dry) 200 / 100 Sweet Melon 200 / 100 Pepper (hot) 300 / 200 Pepper (sweet) 240 / 180 Potato 400 / 300 Peaches 680 / 580 Tomato 90 / 50 String bean 320 / 260 Watermelon 100 / 50		<b>HUAZ RAILWAY TRAIN</b> Dep. Amman 8:00 a.m. every Monday Arr. Damascus 5:00 p.m. every Monday Dep. Damascus 7:30 a.m. every Sunday Arr. Amman 5:30 p.m. every Sunday	

كنا في ليل



## King receives Islamic scholars Meeting on Zakat, social solidarity ends with agreement to form international organisation

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein welcomed Muslim scholars who took part in the three-day meetings on Zakat and social solidarity in Islam and called on them to address Islamic causes in accordance with firm and definite principles and to further the implementation of Islamic unity.

During an audience Thursday with the scholars and researchers participating in the third seminar, organised by the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al al Bayt Foundation), King Hussein said "we, as well as all other people in the Islamic World, are awaiting the benefits of each one of your meetings."

King Hussein said he was pleased that the meetings have been held in Jordan and

he hoped for more such gatherings to address important Islamic issues.

"It gives us pleasure and satisfaction to see such meetings, involving Muslim scholars and researchers, representing all Islamic schools of thought, held frequently to achieve the unity of the Umma and chart its future course," the King said.

President of Al al Bayt Foundation Nasereddin Al Assad thanked King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan for their patronage of the seminar and their continued support for the foundation.

Dr. Assad added that Prince Hassan had proposed several years ago the establishment of an international Islamic Zakat organisation to help the needy in the various

Islamic nations.

The audience was attended by Prince Hassan, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, King Hussein's special advisors Khalid Karaki and Izzeddin Al Khatib Al Tamimi, Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, and Royal Court Imam Ahmad Helayel.

The three-day seminar concluded here Thursday and adopted several recommendations aimed at reaching practical solutions on the best means to employ Zakat to address the poverty problem at both the community and Islamic Umma levels.

Participants welcomed Prince Hassan's proposal to set up an international Islamic Zakat organisation and

entrusted Al al Bayt Foundation to set up a committee to work out a mechanism for implementing this proposal.

They also called on researchers to facilitate Fiqh (Islamic Law) terminology and usages and to expound and promote the concept of Zakat utilising mass media and various channels.

Participants entrusted Al al Bayt Foundation with publishing a book including all research papers agreed upon during the seminar and issuing a complete text of the deliberations, debates and questions covered during the seminar.

They also agreed to hold the fourth seminar in 1995 under the theme "The Importance of Islamic Property (Waqf) in Today's World."

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Prince Abdullah awards ANU graduates

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Abdullah Ben Al Hussein presented certificates to graduates from Aman National University (ANU) at a graduation ceremony held at the University of Jordan stadium. A total of 600 students graduated this year from the various faculties of ANU. The Thursday ceremony was attended by the University President Eid Dahiyat, university staff and students' families. Also Thursday Prince Abdullah visited the badia and border police headquarters, where he was received by Sharif Fawwaz Zaben, commander of the badia and border police, who briefed him on the duties and tasks of the force. Prince Abdullah paid a field visit to one of the badia police units and inspect its equipment. The Prince was accompanied by Public Security Department Director

Lt. Gen. Abdul Rahman Al Adwan.

#### Trade centre to open in Washington

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian trade centre will be opened in Washington soon, according to a decision by the Jordanian Exports Promotion and Trade Centres Corporation Board of Directors. The board named Dia' Eldin Al Rifai as commercial representative of the corporation in Washington. A spokesperson for the corporation said the new centre will handle the promotion of Jordanian industries in the U.S. markets and provide services and facilities to those industries. With this centre, the number of Jordanian trade centres abroad comes to 10. Other centres are in Oman, Yemen, Egypt, Iraq, Sudan, Tunisia, Morocco, Libya and Russia.

## American lawmakers want Jordan to return suspect

WASHINGTON (AP) — New Jersey lawmakers asked Jordan on Thursday to cooperate in the return of a fugitive wife-killing suspect whom they fear will harm the son and daughter he took to the Kingdom.

Despite the lack of an extradition treaty between the United States and Jordan, Morris County Prosecutor Michael Murphy and state lawmakers said they were optimistic following a Thursday meeting at the Jordanian embassy.

"The session with the charge d'affaires was very positive," said Representative Robert Torricelli, a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

"There has been strong cooperation between Jordan and the United States in other matters."

"This is an irritant that neither side wants," said Mr. Torricelli, a democrat (New Jersey).

Specifics were short on the return of suspect Mohammad Ismail Abequa, but officials hoped the cooperative spirit expressed by Charge d'Affaires Ayman Amay would evolve into a solution.

Authorities say they fear for the safety of the children — the year-old Sami and six-year-old Lisa — because they say Mr. Abequa has a history of spousal and child abuse.

Mr. Abequa, 45, is suspected in the July 3, strangulation of his wife Nidal, 40.

Her body was found three days later in their Parsippany-Troy Hills apartment.

## Qouriea seeks to allay Jordan concern

(Continued from page 1)

hailed by Palestinian officials as securing more than they bargained for, is seen as having curtailed Palestinian options in dealing with Jordan.

According to highly-informed sources, Jordan reviewed the issue with Israel when the two sides met in Washington in early June under the umbrella of the Jordanian-American-Israeli commission and in fact managed to relax some of the Israeli-imposed restrictions on the flow of Jordanian goods to the Palestinian market.

During that meeting, Israel also agreed to keep Jordan informed of all developments concerning the possible issuance of a Palestinian currency and the circulation of the Jordanian currency in the occupied territories. Similar undertakings have been offered by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), according to the sources.

Central Bank of Jordan Governor Mohammad Saed Nabulsi has said that Jordan did not really have to worry about a massive withdrawal of the dinar from circulation in the occupied territories since it would be an illogical move for the Palestinians themselves because Palestinians whose savings are in the Jordanian currency would also be negatively affected.

"It is not a zero-sum game," Dr. Nabulsi said last month.

Overlapping aspects of the Israel-PLO and the Jordan-PLO economic accords are expected to be raised when the commission meets again in a working session on Wednesday near the Dead Sea. The opening session will be attended by Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, in his capacity as foreign minister, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Israeli Foreign Minister Shi-

mon Peres. But there will not be any negotiations between Dr. Majali and Mr. Peres.

Commenting on the status of Jordanian-Palestinian economic cooperation, His Majesty King Hussein said on July 6 that "we have already started steps in this direction" on the basis of the agreement, but he emphasised the need for close consultations over differences if any.

"We welcome the Palestinian leaders to Amman at any time, we are open to discuss any subject of mutual concern..." the King told reporters after a summit meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

## Arafat restakes claim

(Continued from page 1)

lims and Christians from going to it. Rabin promised me to solve this problem."

Mr. Arafat told Mr. Sadik's delegation.

Mr. Arafat has repeatedly alluded to hopes of regaining Jerusalem since the peace agreement, notably in a May 10 speech in Johannesburg. He called for a "jihad" or holy war in the city, but, later when Israel protested he said he did not mean violence.

Israeli right-wingers who oppose compromising with the Palestinians have seized on Mr. Arafat's comments to stage protests against the peace agreement in Jerusalem. They got a turnout of 100,000 on July 2.

More demonstrations are expected Saturday when activists plan a march around the old walled city.

Mr. Rabin's government has also considered limiting Palestinian political activity in East Jerusalem, to try to keep the PLO from improving their negotiating position over the city.

Army radio said that the cabinet would debate a bill Monday to restrict political activity in the city with a penalty of one year in prison or a fine of 100,000 shekel (\$33,000).

A government official speaking on condition of anonymity confirmed the bill was being considered but said the wording was not final.

Under the bill, Palestinians would have to seek approval from Israel for official cere-

monies in the Holy City. It would also allow the police to give evidence to a court behind closed doors to prevent such ceremonies.

Faisal Hussein, the PLO leader in Jerusalem, told the radio the bill "goes against the peace process."

Israel protested this week after Mr. Hussein received Canadian Public Works Minister David Dingwall at his East Jerusalem headquarters called Orient House.

Mr. Hussein denied Orient House was used as a Palestinian foreign ministry.

Palestinian Information and Culture Minister Yasser Abed Rabbo arrived in the Gaza Strip Thursday from Egypt after Israel lifted a ban on him entering the autonomous territory.

Mr. Abed Rabbo arrived in the Strip via the Rafah border crossing point. Israel had prevented Mr. Abed Rabbo entering the Gaza Strip Wednesday while a Palestinian activist, Jihad Amarin, remained there.

After his arrival, Mr. Abed Rabbo headed for the Palestine Hotel where Mr. Arafat was holding a late night meeting with Gaza residents.

"I don't know what to say, these are the first words that I speak after entering the land of Palestine," Mr. Abed Rabbo told a cheering audience of about 200 people.

Mr. Abed Rabbo heads a faction called FIDA, which is a member of the PLO, and supports peace with Israel.

He has spent most of his life in Lebanon and Tunis.

## Party coalition appeals for end to 4-year-old sanctions on Iraq

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A coalition of 18 Jordanian political parties is appealing to heads of states and governments to seek an end to the nearly four-year-old international sanctions against Iraq by influencing the United Nations Security Council.

The appeals, which were also sent to political parties in Arab, Islamic and foreign countries, came as part of a campaign undertaken by the coalition, which was announced during a visit to Jordan last month by a senior delegation representing the ruling Arab Baath Socialist Party in Iraq.

Other activities undertaken by the coalition include observing a week of solidarity with Iraq, a fund-raising campaign and offering treatment to Iraqi children and disabled at Jordanian hospitals.

In written memorandums to heads of state, including His Majesty King Hussein, U.S. President Bill Clinton, French President Francois Mitterrand, and U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali as well as all Arab leaders, the coalition voiced concern over the deteriorating living conditions of the Iraqi people and appealed that all efforts be extended to end the sanctions.

In its appeal to the King, the coalition said: "While recognising the stand of Your Majesty in support of brotherly Iraq and the position of the Jordanian government and people, we

express our total rejection of this unjust embargo on Iraq."

It appealed to the King to use his influence with other world leaders and countries to lift the sanctions and release Iraqi assets frozen abroad as part of the punitive U.N. measure imposed against Baghdad following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August 1990.

It said the Baghdad government had abided by all requirements of the U.N. ceasefire terms that ended the Gulf war that liberated Kuwait in early 1991 and that there was no legal or moral justification for the continuation of the sanctions.

In its message to foreign leaders and the U.N. secretary-general, the coalition said: "While we strongly condemn the siege imposed on Iraq since it represents an explicit violation of the human and national rights of the Iraqi people and the Arab Nation, we wish to remind you that proceeding with this siege will further increase hatred in the hearts of the people from all over the Arab countries..."

The sanctions have "brought about tremendous sufferings and hardships to the Iraqi people," it said, adding, "unfortunately, however, the embargo has reflected negatively on the economic situation in Jordan..."

"We appreciate any positive stand vis-a-vis the situation in Iraq and the necessity of lifting the siege imposed on it," it said.

"We seek your active support and kind assistance of our appeal...we are confident that you will use your good offices with the U.N. and the Security Council during the periodical review session scheduled to convene this month" on the sanctions (the second part of this paragraph was missing from the coalition's letter to President Clinton).

The Security Council meets Monday for a two-monthly review of the sanctions against Iraq. But any easing-of-the sanctions is unlikely, given the U.S. and British view that Baghdad has not complied fully with the Gulf war ceasefire terms set by the U.N. after the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait in early 1991.

"We solicit your diligent efforts to persuade the U.N. to implement article 22 of Security Council Resolution 687 providing for the termination of this siege," said the one-page appeal to world leaders. "This will undoubtedly avoid the collateral harmful effects on the population."

The memos were signed by Hamzeh Mansour, a member of the Lower House of Parliament representing the Islamic Action Front, which has assumed a leading role in the coalition.

Dr. Mansour was quoted as saying last week that a parliamentary delegation headed by Ibrahim Zeid Al Keilani now visiting Tehran would try to lobby the Iranian government to end the sanctions against its neigh-

bour. Similar efforts will be undertaken with all friendly countries, he said.

(The delegation was also expected to try to convince the Iranian government to release Iraqi warplanes sent to Iran during the Gulf war. Baghdad says more than 140 warplanes were sent to Iran for safekeeping but Iran says it received less than 30 and that their return hinges on an end to the sanctions).

(Reports from Iran indicate that the Iranian air force is using some of the planes after repainting them).

IAF sources said coalition leaders had met with Russia, Chinese and French diplomats in Amman to press their governments into lifting the sanctions against Iraq. The alliance was also seeking meetings with the U.S. and British diplomats, but it was not immediately known whether any such encounters took place.

Russia, China and France, all of them permanent members of the Security Council, are seen as sympathetic to the Iraqi cause and have said in public that they favour an easing of the crippling embargo.

On Thursday, the coalition staged a sit-in in front of the U.N. office in Amman. Between 60 to 80 people, representing political parties, unions, professional associations and members of parliament, participated in the event, which ended after the memo was handed over to the office.

## Japan to study Jordan's tourist regions

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Japanese delegation headed by the director of the International Cooperation Department at the foreign ministry Friday said Japan is ready to provide financial aid to Jordan to develop its tourism sector.

The delegation head said a Japanese expert group will arrive here Sunday to work out plans of cooperation between Jordan and Japan and to review them with the Jordanian authorities in preparation for implementation.

The Japanese group met with Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Mohammad Adwan Thursday and discussed with him scopes of cooperation in tourism and the possibility of Japanese financing and implementing related projects in Jordan.

Dr. Adwan reviewed with the visiting delegation Jordan's tourist attractions and potential investments.

He said the ministry had divided the Kingdom into various tourist regions, taking into consideration the special circumstances and features of each, and the services and facilities needed there.

Dr. Adwan stressed that any plans to develop such areas should recognise the features of the region, including cultural and archaeological sites and the local environment.

The minister reviewed the important role tourism can play in supporting the national economy and providing hard currency, in addition to creating jobs and consequently helping ease unemployment.

Dr. Adwan said tourism will be the top productive industry, noting its significant contribution to enhancing scopes of cooperation and advancing understanding be-

tween the world nations. He said the tourism sector will benefit greatly from the establishment of peace in the region, adding that it will result in large tourist groups coming to this area.

Dr. Adwan called on Japan, as the current chair of the Middle-East peace talks multilateral working group on the environment, to contribute to working out frameworks and bases for cooperation in the region.

He also called for speeding up action to implement and finance tourism projects and requested that the delegation launch tourism promotion campaigns in Japan to encourage Japanese citizens to visit Jordan.

The Japanese delegation said it will undertake comprehensive studies of the various tourist regions within the next 18 months to identify service and facility needs, taking into account the various region's special circumstances and characteristics.

The delegation also expressed Tokyo's readiness to support traditional industries in Jordan and promised to send an expert to draft a strategy to develop such enterprises and train Jordanian cadres.

### JEA course inaugurated

A training course for Arab countries' engineers in the field of electric power, supported by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), was Thursday inaugurated at the Electric Training Centre of the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA).

The JICA support includes financing the operation cost at approximately JD 108,000. The inauguration ceremony held at the JEA was attended by Hajime Tanaki, chargé d'affaires of Japan in Jordan.

The course, which will be held annually from 1992 to 1996, aims at providing the participation from Arab countries such as Qatar,

Oman, Bahrain, Yemen, Syria, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco and Mauritania, with an opportunity to upgrade relevant techniques and knowledge in the field of electric power. This year the course will be held for 17 weeks, beginning July 2.

Japan has extended the cooperation to the Electric Training Centre at JEA, consisting of dispatching six Japanese experts, providing modern training equipment worth approximately JD 3 million and training in Japan of 15 personnel during 1978-1991.

Japan also dispatched seven young Japanese volunteers to JEA, three for the Aqaba Thermal Power Station, two for the Amman Control Centre and two for the Zarqa Thermal Power Station.

Japan has so far offered several technical cooperation packages including the above-mentioned cooperation to Jordan amounting to over JD 50 million.

## International youth conference to work towards understanding

AMMAN (Petra) — Youngsters from 30 countries around the world will meet here Friday as part of an international gathering initiated by a Jordanian youth group and aimed at bolstering cooperation and advancing understanding among youth from various parts of the world, according to Lina Arafat, coordinator of the event.

Ms. Arafat said the five-day conference, which will be held at Philadelphia Hotel beginning July 22, will discuss issues of common concern including environmental protection, peace, international economy, and science and technology.

The conference, Ms. Arafat said, seeks to strengthen channels of communications between Jordanian youth and their peers from other parts of the world, and to create a base for common understanding of Jordanian and international issues through lectures, seminars and workshops.

The participants will also have the opportunity to exchange views on various

issues, and to overcome any differences based on multiple languages, traditions and cultures, and work jointly towards one objective, that is, the realisation of peace.

In addition, they will tour historical, archaeological and cultural sites in Jordan.

The youths will come from such countries as Australia, Canada, Egypt, France, Gambia, Germany, Lithuania, Mauritius, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, Yemen, Norway, Turkey, Romania, and Jordan.



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German consulting firm (INSTRUPA) executing a technical cooperation project on "Agricultural Extension and Promotion of Production (PAEP)" in Jordan is seeking to recruit two Jordanian male or female specialists: One agricultural economist and one agricultural extensionist, to support the conceptual and field activities of this project. The contract period will be for 33 months.

Applicants should be under 40 years of age, possess a relevant, preferably post-graduate university degree and have a minimum of five years professional experience in working with farmers. Excellent command of Arabic and English in speaking and writing is essential.

Interested persons are invited to obtain the full job description and requirements on which the application should be based, by contacting the address below. Applications containing all relevant data and references should be forwarded not later than 31 July 1994 to:

**INSTRUPA, C/O GTZ Project Administration Service, Shmelsani, P.O.Box 92 62 38, Amman, Tel.: 667 021/660 080. Fax: 683 402**

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إلى الملاك



## Bastille Day snub to U.K. marks new bitterness — paper

LONDON (Agencies) — Organisers of the annual July 14 military parade in Paris scrapped an invitation to Britain's Royal Air Force (RAF) to take part, the Independent said Friday, quoting unidentified official sources.

The RAF had offered to send four Tornado fighters to join the fly-past over the Champs-Elysees, but the French authorities decided against it four months ago, the report by the daily's Paris correspondent said.

The paper said the French viewed the presence of British aircraft as "politically incorrect. It would have sent the wrong message."

Reflecting close ties with Bonn, the French government instead decided to include Eurocopters, the mainly French and German brigade set up last year.

Describing the decision as a "snub", the Independent said it came against a background of "worsening relations" between London and Paris.

As evidence, it cited the Channel Tunnel which was celebrated with more enthusiasm on the French side than on the British, and the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of D-Day in Normandy.

Following that occasion, the paper reported, Queen Elizabeth II was said to have complained privately that French President Francois

Mitterrand was off-hand with her personally and towards Britain generally.

Further grievances on the part of the two countries were said to relate to British Prime Minister John Major's use of his veto to block the candidature of Belgian Premier Jean-Luc Dehaene, favoured by France, for presidency of the European Commission, and Britain's criticism of France's decision to send troops to war-torn Rwanda.

In the event, Thursday's fly-past was drastically curtailed because of the low cloud. Only a few army helicopters and the French Air Force aerobatic team trailing traditional red, white and blue smoke took part.

The German press Friday hailed as a "parade for Europe" the participation of German tanks in France's annual military procession down the Champs-Elysees.

The German soldiers, who took part in the parade as part of the Eurocopters, were joining the national procession which was "directed towards the future," said the conservative Die Welt in an editorial.

The Neue Osnabruecker Zeitung said that "Franco-German friendship henceforth has a new quality," adding that "the last taboo of bilateral relations has fallen."

The Leipziger Volkszeitung asked whether "put-

ting history back together again is easier when we think less in national terms, and more in European terms."

The answer, according to the paper "after yesterday, is yes."

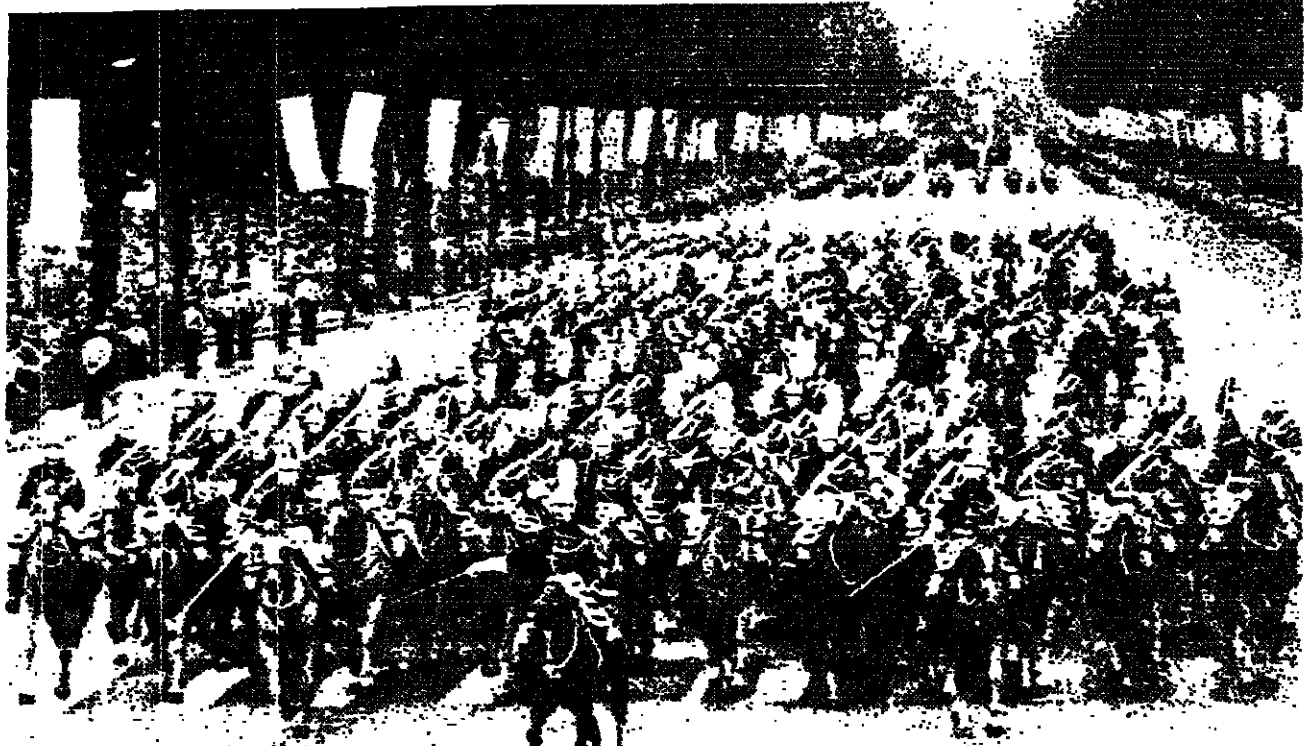
French President Francois Mitterrand's invitation to the Germans to take part in the Bastille Day military parade stirred controversy in France as it was the first time since World War II that German tanks had rolled down the Champs-Elysees.

To strains of the European Union hymn, German soldiers rolled down France's Grandest Avenue Thursday. To some it brought eerie memories of Nazi occupation, but to most it was a milestone for European unity.

Invited to France's traditional Bastille Day military parade, the 200 Germans joined troops of France, Belgium, Spain and Luxembourg in an 800-strong procession by the Eurocopters, Europe's fledgling army.

As they rolled their armoured personnel carriers down the Champs-Elysees, Beethoven's 9th Symphony, the European Union's hymn, played over the public address system and applause broke out among many of the tens of thousands of onlookers lining the avenue.

"I think you must go past the memories, even if you lived them like me," said



The Republican Guard cavalry parade down the Champs-Elysees during the traditional Bastille Day military parade

(AFP photo)

Bernard Heslot, 67.

"I feel good for Europe and I think it's normal to see German troops. In fact they're not really German troops. That's why it doesn't matter to me, because they're here with the Eurocopters," said Fred Coustenoble, 23.

But at the sight of black-and-white German military crosses on two-dozen armoured vehicles, others couldn't forgive Germany for the daily goose-stepping by Nazi troops down the same avenue for four years during the World War II.

There were some scattered whistles of disapproval, one group of protesters dressed in concentration camp uniforms and an elderly couple wore the yellow Star of David the Nazis forced the Jews to wear.

"My father was deported" to a death camp, said the wife, Annette Salomon, 60. "To see them march then and to see them again today is very difficult."

Still, the horrid memory of a German prison camp, where he lost two friends, "doesn't stop me from being for the Germans in the para-

de," said Maurice Picault, a frail man of 91. "It's better to be friends than enemies."

The 7,000-member Eurocopters, to grow to 40,000 next year, was created by France and Germany. The two former enemies are now the two main forces behind efforts to turn the EU's 12-nation trading bloc into a political and economic power with a common currency and army.

It was perhaps President Francois Mitterrand's final grand gesture for Europe before he ends 14 years of power next spring. The move made up for shutting out the Germans from the 50th anniversary ceremonies of D-Day, June 6.

But former President Valery Giscard d'Estaing said it was too soon. The Communists, who were a major force in the resistance, protested on the avenue Monday, and monarchists called the Eurocopters a "Trojan horse."

Adm. Philippe De Gaulle, son of French war hero and former President Charles De Gaulle, said German participation was "neither the right date nor the right

place."

But opinion polls indicated about two-thirds of the French public supported Mr. Mitterrand's decision.

Both Mr. Mitterrand and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, a guest at the parade, expressed satisfaction after the parade.

"I was happy that in a choice between the past and the future, we choose the future," said Mr. Mitterrand, 77.

Mr. Mitterrand, who was wounded and taken prisoner during the war, recalled his "profound sadness" when Germans marched in Paris then. On Thursday, he said, he felt "joy at the thought that a half-century has been enough to resolve the problems of two world wars."

Mr. Kohl said no one could expect "the marks of history to disappear immediately" but added: "The Eurocopters shows that Europe is in the process of being born."

Welt published Thursday.

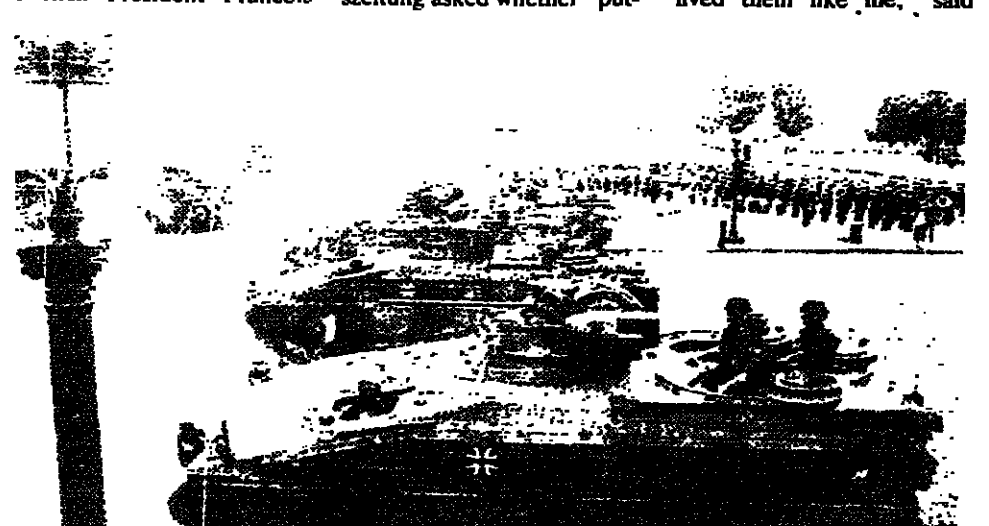
The German army normally doesn't hold parades, but a Eurocopters procession would demonstrate European unity," Mr. Ruehe said.

The Bastille Day parade featured 350 vehicles, 200 horses and 6,000 people including white-hatted foreign legionnaires and silver-helmeted firefighters. A formation of jets left trails of red, white and blue smoke over the Broad Avenue.

France's 2nd Armoured Division, which liberated Paris on Aug. 23, 1944, had a place of honour in the parade.

In addition to Mr. Kohl, dignitaries watching the parade included Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez of Spain; Jacques Santer of Luxembourg and Jean-Luc Dehaene of Belgium; Ivory Coast President Henri Konan Bedie; President-elect Ernesto Samper of Colombia; and Jacques Delors, chief executive of the European Union.

Bastille Day marks the prison storming in 1789 that set off the French revolution and led to the birth of the republic.



German "Marder" combat vehicles taking part in the traditional Bastille Day military parade pass through the Place de la Concorde (AFP photo)

## Rome government wavers amid storm over corruption law

ROME (R) — Italy's government indicated its readiness to compromise Friday on a law limiting powers of arrest that has split the coalition and set it on a collision course with corruption-busting magistrates.

The lira and government bonds skidded on the storm, triggered by a cabinet decree issued Wednesday that excluded bribery and corruption from a list of offences for which magistrates could hold suspects in preventive detention.

Milan's elite pool of "clean hands" investigators, including national hero Antonio Di Pietro, demanded Thursday to be moved to other jobs, rocking Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's two-month-old government.

Justice Minister Alfredo Biondi, seeking to calm the furor, said the decree was not set in stone and was open to amendment in parliament. "We don't issue decrees that apply for ever and can't be discussed," Mr. Biondi told reporters. "Everything can be modified as long as the foundations of the decree are not overturned."

"The government I belong to is headed by Berlusconi, not Di Pietro," said Mr. Biondi, referring to the

Roman emperor who persecuted Christians.

Interior Minister Roberto Maroni called the exclusion of bribery and corruption from the list of arrestable offences a mistake that could be corrected immediately by amending the decree in parliament to include them.

Mr. Berlusconi Friday defended the decree. He said the intention of the decree was to "stop Italy becoming a police state" before storming out of a news conference without taking questions.

Mr. Berlusconi said magistrates had all the powers they needed "to pursue their investigations and trials, to carry out justice and not vendetta."

"Putting citizens in jail has become almost run of the mill," the media tycoon-turned-politician said. Government spokesman Giuliano Ferrara, who has cabinet rank, said the decree would not be pulled but also signalled that amendments submitted in parliament would be taken into account.

"The decree law is not a hatchet job," Mr. Ferrara said.

Umberto Bossi, whose Northern League is a key partner in Mr. Berlusconi's

coalition, said his movement would give the decree a rough ride in parliament.

"Corruption and bribery can't be seen as mere misdemeanours," said Mr. Bossi, brought to book himself by Di Pietro this month along with former Prime Minister Bettino Craxi and a host of old guard leaders at a major corruption trial in Milan.

Parliamentarians in the neo-fascist-led National Alliance, the third pillar of Mr. Berlusconi's two-month-old coalition government, also threatened a revolt.

"Millions of Italians did not vote for us so we would absolve thieves and let them out of jail," said hardliner Pino Rauti. He called the decree a "mindboggling whitewash."

Mr. Di Pietro and his colleagues have become virtual saints in Italy after two years of "tangentopoli" (bribeville) scandals that sank an entire class of corrupt politicians.

The magistrates have ordered the arrest at various times of thousands of businessmen and politicians, arguing that if left free they could tamper with evidence. Critics say investigators have abused their powers to force confessions out of suspects.

## Armenia rejects Turkish peacekeepers for Karabakh

YEREVAN (R) — Armenia has rejected the idea of Turkish troops taking part in peacekeeping operations in the Azeri-Armenian conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh, a senior official said Friday.

Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller last month proposed sending a contingent to a multinational force, and Russia, the dominant military power in the Caucasus, gave conditional approval.

"Turkey cannot be involved in the peacekeeping process, even as observers, since Turkey is one of the sides in the conflict," Armenia's Ovanisyan, head of the Armenian president's press service, said. "And they continue to blockade Armenia."

Several thousand people have been killed in 6½ years of fighting over Karabakh, a mainly Armenian-inhabited territory allotted to Azerbaijan by the Kremlin in 1923.

Armenia is not formally involved but provides logistic and diplomatic support to the separatist Karabakh Armenians.

Turkey, which has strong ethnic and linguistic links with Azerbaijan, is a member of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe's 11-nation Minsk group seeking to end the Karabakh conflict.

An aide to Ms. Ciller said in late June the Turkish leader was asking parliament, which is in recess, to approve

the use of Turkish troops within a CSCE multinational peacekeeping force.

Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev, in an interview with ITAR-TASS News Agency last Friday, indicated Moscow would accept Turkish involvement but would want to invite contingents from other countries too.

"Turkey cannot introduce its troops into Azerbaijan unilaterally," he said. "Russia also has interests in the Transcaucasus, no smaller and perhaps greater than Turkey's."

But the Armenian government rejected the idea out of hand. Ms. Ovanisyan said it was impossible, among other

reasons, because Yerevan and Ankara had no diplomatic relations.

Armenia accuses Turkey of massacring up to 1.5 million people in 1915 and annexing much of its territory — charges rejected by Turkey.

Armenians make little distinction between Turks and Azeris. They also accuse Turkey of advising and equipping Azeri forces in Karabakh.

Armenian forces pushed the Azeris out of almost all the enclave last year and also occupied huge swathes of adjoining Azeri territory. There was a flurry of fighting in the spring, but the battle front have been largely quiet over the summer.

## Burma offers to trade drug warlord for U.S. arms

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The Burmese military junta has offered to trade a drug lord responsible for most of the world heroin trade if the United States lifts its arms embargo on Burma. The New York Times said Friday.

Military officials in Yangon told the daily the offer was made to the U.S. State Department in recent weeks.

Although U.S. officials think it unlikely the offer might change U.S. pressure to have Burma improve its human rights record, they said it would be important if it signalled a new willingness by the army to destroy Khun Sa's operation.

Khun Sa was indicted on

narcotics charges in the United States in 1989 and recently declared himself president of a newly independent state on Burma's eastern border, where a large part of the world's opium, the raw material for heroin, is grown.

Despite the State Department's annual report accusing Burma's military leaders of "only minimal narcotics enforcement," a spokesman for the junta's anti-narcotics programme said efforts to defeat Khun Sa have redoubled.

"We've begun to hurt him," Lieutenant Colonel Kyaw Thein said, adding however, that the Burmese military needed help to des-

trophy Khun Sa's army.

"If the U.S. really wants Khun Sa to be wiped out of this area, the first thing they will need to do is help us with arms and ammunition," he said.

Despite the U.S. arms embargo, Burma since 1990 has received an estimated \$1-billion worth of weapons such as tanks, jet fighters and warships from China, which the military sources said were useless in mountain warfare.

"What we need from America are helicopters and smaller arms, which we can use in the mountains," a Burmese military officer told the daily.

This latest offer follows a statement earlier this week by a spokesman of the military junta who said the military leader would be willing to meet with dissident leader and Nobel Peace Prize winner Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, who has been under house arrest for nearly six years.

The statement, made by Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, head of military intelligence, also in an interview with the New York Times, was welcomed by a U.S. State Department spokesman Tuesday.

"It has long been the view (of the U.S. government) that the (Burmese junta) should enter promptly into a genuine dialogue. If development," said the spokesman.

## Amnesty accuses Bangladesh of endorsing Islamic death threats

LONDON (AFP) — Amnesty International has accused the Bangladeshi government of endorsing religious death threats, amid growing concern over an Islamic edict made against a Bangladeshi feminist writer.

The London-based rights group urged the government to protect writer Taslima Nasreen, who 10 days ago sent a message to the organisation saying she was in "grave danger" after she was accused of insulting the feelings of Muslims.

"Instead of issuing arrest warrants for people who receive death threats from Islamist groups, the government of Bangladesh should publicly condemn these 'fatwas' and promptly bring those responsible to justice,"

said Amnesty. If the government had done this "in the first place," the present wave of death threats, including that to Nasreen would never have occurred, the group said in a statement.

The organisation also stated: "We are gravely concerned that the Bangladeshi government has not only failed to protect such people from death threats, but has also actually endorsed the 'fatwas' by issuing warrants for the same people's arrest on charges of blasphemy," the statement said.

Nasreen has been in hiding since a court last month issued an arrest warrant against her for outraging Muslim feelings by making a

comment about the Koran. She has denied blaspheming the Muslim holy book.

She is reportedly seeking asylum in the United States. In Dhaka Thursday several thousand militant supporters of an Islamic alliance were stopped from marching to the U.S. embassy warning U.S. President Bill Clinton to veto any asylum application by Nasreen.

The protesters carried banners with messages such as "Clinton beware, we will peel your skin" and "hang Taslima Nasreen."

Journalists reporting on Nasreen have also been attacked by Islamic groups and foreign non-governmental organisations have been threatened or had their offices set on fire.

## U.S. Senate bans arms sales to Indonesia

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The Senate banned the sale of light arms to Indonesia until "significant progress" is made on human rights in East Timor.

The measure, approved in a voice vote late Thursday, will go to a House-Senate conference committee to resolve differences with a similar version of the bill passed by the House of Representatives in May.

Included as a provision in the Foreign Assistance Appropriations Bill, the Senate measure recommends the U.S. government should "refrain from selling light arms and crowd control items until

the secretary of state reports that there has been significant progress made on human rights in East Timor and elsewhere in Indonesia."

The United States suspended military aid to Jakarta in 1992, which included bringing Indonesian soldiers here for training.

The conditions set out by the Senate include compliance with U.N. recommendations last year calling for a significant reduction in Indonesia's troop presence in the former Portuguese enclave annexed by Jakarta in 1976.

The recommendations also call on Jakarta to participate

"constructively" with U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali on resolving the status of East Timor, which includes the issue of self-determination.

On Thursday anti-riot police in East Timor violently dispersed a demonstration of about 500 people, mostly university students, protesting a series of religious incidents between local Muslims and Roman Catholics.

Some protesters were beaten with batons and taken away by security personnel who made 30 arrests, according to a University of East Timor professor who asked not to be identified.

A hospital source said eight people were treated for minor injuries.

East Timor police have released all but one of the detained Thursday when security forces broke up the student-led march.

The provincial capital Dili was reported to be calm Friday in the aftermath of the incident.

The lone demonstrator being detained is not a student but an unemployed man alleged to have carried a weapon at the demonstration, said Lieutenant Colonel Andreas Sugianto, police chief in Dili, in a telephone interview.

## Sammy the alligator's escapade ends

DORMAGEN, Germany (AFP) — Sammy the alligator's daring bid for freedom ended Friday with his capture in a lake in this western German town where he took a dip to cool off last weekend and decided he rather enjoyed the setting. The eight-year-old creature that had managed to evade police capture for five days was finally caught Friday morning by a frogman who found it bathing on the lakeside, police said.

His next address will be a zoo, they added. Sammy's saga, which has gripped the popular imagination, began Sunday when his owner Joerg Zars, 21 took him for a cooling swim. Sammy slipped his leash and swam off spreading panic among the 8,000 bathers. Since then, with Germany out of the World Cup, his days "on the run" from frogmen, police marksmen and would-be hunters of all sorts have come almost to rival the soccer tournament for public interest. The shock announcement Tuesday of his death in a hail of police bullets proved premature.

On Wednesday he was discovered to be still alive and swimming in the summer resort lake of Nievenheim near Dormagen. By Thursday he was a hero with his own fan club, set up by the Saarland Radio Station whose switchboard was jammed by listeners calling in with messages of sympathy for Sammy. Finally, after an hour-long crisis meeting Thursday, Dormagen town officials and Neuss district police announced everything would be done to catch the 1.20 metre-long (four-foot-long) caiman alive.

Local town official, said Sammy had proved more popular than former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev when he visited the town two years ago.

Sammy was born in a zoo in the town of Nievenheim, where he was kept for five years. He was then sold to Joerg Zars, who kept him in a pond in his garden. Sammy escaped from the pond last weekend and swam into the Nievenheim lake.

Sammy was found by a frogman who was on duty on Thursday morning. He was then taken to a zoo in the town of Nievenheim.

Sammy's owner, Joerg Zars, said he was sorry that his alligator had been caught. He said he had been looking for a new home for Sammy since he had been caught last weekend.

Sammy was found by a frogman who was on duty on Thursday morning. He was then taken to a zoo in the town of Nievenheim.

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## 'Condom king' wins Magsaysay Award

MANILA (AP) — Mechai Viravaidya, known as the "condom king" of Thailand, won the Magsaysay Award for his efforts to promote population and AIDS control, has won the 1994 Ramon Magsaysay Award for Public Service. The Ramon Magsaysay Foundation said Mr. Mechai, who is chairman of Thailand's Population and Community Development Association, had promoted "creative public campaigns to promote family planning, rural development and a rigorous, honest and compassionate response to the plague of AIDS."

Mr. Mechai was among the first prominent Thais to become alert to the spread of the deadly disease. He founded the Population Control Centre in 1974, before AIDS appeared, in order to reduce the country's birth rate. When the AIDS epidemic spread to Thailand in the 1980s, the association also began promoting the use of condoms to protect against the virus. He became senior minister in 1991 and developed programmes to increase AIDS awareness throughout the country. The Magsaysay Awards are given annually to successful Asians. He is the eighth Thai to win the award, which carries \$60,000 grant.

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## Plane flying to Algeria for Shackleton crew

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A South African Air Force plane flew to Algeria Friday to ferry home 19 crewmen from an elderly Shackleton aircraft that crash-landed in the Sahara earlier this week, a spokeswoman said. Major Laverne Mills said the South Africans were in the small Algerian town of Tindouf, where they were flown by the United Nations from its camp at the Hasi Aguent Oasis in Mauritania. "We've spoken to the guys. They've asked for cigarettes, newspapers, beer. They're all in good spirits," Maj. Mills added.

The four-engined Shackleton made a forced landing on the Mauritanian border with Western Sahara early Wednesday after two engines failed. The South African Shackleton, which was one of only two still flying, had been on its way to Britain to take part in an air show. The air force did not know if the wreck could be recovered, Maj. Mills said.



# French troops to detain Rwanda officials found in safe zone

PARIS (R) — France, alarmed at the prospect of sheltering ministers accused of complicity in genocide, said Friday it would detain members of the Rwandan government if they were found in a safe zone for civilians in the southwest.

As waves of refugees fleeing the civil war poured into the French-declared protection zone and Zaire, a senior French official said the leaders of the rump government might take advantage of the chaos to slip into the safe area.

France still has no confirmation that the president, prime minister and other officials had fled to Zaire along with the collapsed government's retreating army Friday.

"If they come to us and we hear of it, we would intern them. It is out of the question that we would accept them continuing their activities in our area," the French official said.

"We would put them not quite in prison but under the guard of French soldiers to prevent them eventually continuing their activities and to hand them over to the United Nations if this is requested," he said.

Some members of the Hutu government are likely to be wanted by a U.N. war crimes tribunal on charges of organising the systematic genocide of the Tutsi minority.

"The mandate we have from the U.N. does not include the search for those responsible for the genocide. We have information (on massacres) and we are ready to send this to the U.N. but that's not our mandate," the official said.

He added the rump government leaders had requested asylum from the French, who are leading a humanitarian mission in southwest Rwanda, and this prompted Paris to issue a statement on Thursday saying they would not be welcome in the French zone.

France said last week the Tutsi-dominated Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) had agreed not to enter its safe zone. But the flight of the ousted government raises a risk that rebel guerrillas might enter in pursuit.

A tidal wave of Rwandan refugees which aid agencies predict could reach one million poured into Zaire along with the collapsed government's retreating army Friday.

Columns of people, their cloth bundles and cooking pots piled high on their heads, trudged into the eastern Zairean town of Goma. Truckloads of soldiers, some wounded, joined the exodus — possibly the biggest ever seen in Africa.

Aid agencies varied in their figures, some estimating that 200,000 people crossed Thursday, others saying far more. But they all expect a total of 800,000 to one million people to pour over by the weekend.

The refugees are mostly Hutus, fleeing the rapid advance of the Tutsi-dominated Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) whose well-equipped and disciplined army has routed the government in three months.

The U.N. Security Council, faced with dire warnings from France of another humanitarian catastrophe, Thursday demanded an immediate ceasefire in Rwanda and called on the international community to supply relief for refugees fleeing rebel troops.

Rwandan rebels are consolidating their positions around the lakeside resort of Gisenyi ahead of a final assault against what remains of the government army, retreating soldiers said Friday.

The soldiers said the RPF had not made any push overnight and were still 25 kilometres outside the border town, which until Thursday served as a base for Rwanda's rump government.

"They are surrounding the town, they are consolidating their positions before making an assault on Gisenyi," a captain with Rwanda's presidential guard told Reuters.

His colleague, a major, added: "We also know that they are moving heavy equipment towards Gisenyi. This is the equipment they are getting from Uganda in complete violation of an arms embargo which has only been implemented against us."

French intelligence officers

of the town warned journalists against venturing further into Gisenyi. "They are all drunk and very dangerous at the moment. Remember they have nothing more to lose."

She said the town was almost empty and the lakeside Hotel Meridien was a eerie ghost of its former self.

Nervous troops followed refugees across the border into Zaire believing the RPF will go for Gisenyi once the civilians had left. "It's a tactic we've seen them (rebels) use over the last three months," a Rwandan immigration officer said.

A diplomatic source said Paris was deeply concerned by the slowness of the international community in responding to French warnings of another humanitarian catastrophe.

"Contrary to what the U.N. has asked for from the outset, there is still no ceasefire. And as long as the fighting goes on, people will flee. The problem will remain even if the fighting stops."

"There are thousands of people outside Rwanda, and the situation is such that something must be done not within days but within hours. I don't see the international community mobilising fast enough," the source said.

France has repeatedly called on its European Union partners and Security Council members to rush humanitarian supplies, so far desirous, to the area and try to engineer a ceasefire.

With a U.N. force, due to replace the French, still taking only tentative shape, officials in Paris have acknowledged that French troops will have to stay close to the border even after their U.N. mandate expires on Aug. 22.

Meanwhile Rwanda's prime minister designate said Friday he expected rebels to announce a unilateral ceasefire in the wake of refugees to return.

Faustin Twagiramungu told Reuters after talks with Rwanda Patriotic Front commander Major-General Paul Kagame and chairman Alex Kanyangwe Thursday he believed the rebels were drafting a ceasefire.

"They reacted very positively and agreed a ceasefire



Over 15,000 Rwandan refugees cross every hour the Zairean border at Goma to flee the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) advance on the northwestern town of Gisenyi. Rwanda's

interim government fled from Gisenyi to the southwestern town of Cyangugu, where the French intervention force in Rwanda is based (AFP photo)

was imperative," he said. "They told me they were willing to have a ceasefire as soon as possible. It is not for me to make the announcement. General Kagame will make the declaration."

"That could be any time now — probably his afternoon (Friday), probably tomorrow. We do not have to wait until a government is formed to declare a ceasefire," he added.

Mr. Twagiramungu, designated prime minister by the RPF, said Rwanda and its people needed to encourage the return of more than a million refugees and an estimated two million people internally displaced by three months of war and massacres.

Mr. Twagiramungu, who returned from exile Thursday, spoke at his Kigali hotel which he shares with hundreds of displaced people and 50 U.N. peacekeepers. He said he had been named prime minister of a deserted country.

"If you took me to the middle of the Sahara and said, there, be prime minister, I would refuse. I do not want to be prime minister over sand — but over people."

"For that to happen, we have to persuade the population to return. We have to reassure the people they are safe," he said.

"It is useless to conquer a territory unless you conquer the hearts of the population. The RPF understand that and are ready to reassure the population."

## Serbs force Demirel to cancel Sarajevo trip

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — Turkish President Suleyman Demirel was forced to call off a visit to Sarajevo Thursday because Serb forces ringed the Bosnian capital refused to guarantee his safety, United Nations sources said.

Mr. Demirel instead went to central Bosnia to visit Turkish troops on peacekeeping duty.

Their presence has angered the Bosnian Serbs, who spent 500 years under Ottoman rule and bitterly resent Turkey's support for the Muslim-led Bosnian government in Sarajevo.

"I received a letter yesterday from the United Nations saying my visit to Sarajevo should be postponed for security reasons because they could not fly me from Zagreb to Sarajevo," Mr. Demirel said. He planned to visit the city next month.

The United Nations reported heavy shelling round the town of Konjic, southwest of the capital, and in the north-central Bosnian region around Doboj.

The fighting has continued despite the fact that the Serbs

and Muslims agreed this week to extend a month-long ceasefire that was supposed to pave the way for a permanent settlement of the 27-month war.

The Posavina Corridor, used by the Serbs to supply western Bosnia and Serb held lands in Croatia, suffered 200 shell impacts overnight, while the battle for the Muslim-held Bihac enclave in northwestern Bosnia continued unabated.

U.N. military spokesman Major Rob Annink said the Muslim-led Bosnian army Fifth Corps appeared to have taken some territory from the Serbs.

"Fifth Corps continued the attack and seems to have seized two hills on the Grabez Plateau," Maj. Annink told a news conference.

He reported a total of nearly 5,000 mortar and shell impacts along with intense small arms and machine-gun fire on the plateau Thursday and overnight into Friday.

Mr. Demirel's visit to Sarajevo would have been rich with historic and political overtones — some of them unwelcome to international negotiators trying to coax Bosnia's warring factions into making peace.

Ottoman Empire Turks ruled Bosnia and most of the former Yugoslavia for 500 years, an epoch bitterly resented by Serbs who complain their Christian culture was submerged in Islam. Many still refer to Bosnian Muslims as Turks.

Mr. Demirel met Croatian Foreign Minister Mate Granic when he arrived in the coastal town of Split and was scheduled to meet President Franjo Tudjman later Friday.

During his three-day visit to Bosnia and Croatia, Mr. Demirel is expected to sign a document on friendship and cooperation with Croatia.

The Turkish president will Sunday hold talks with Mr. Tudjman and Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic on the Brijuni Islands, an Adriatic holiday resort used as a residence by the late Yugoslav leader Josip Broz Tito.

Turkey, a moderate Islamic state, and NATO member, is seen as a key supporter of the Croat-Muslim alliance in Bosnia.

Turkish peacekeepers recently landed in Bosnia and were dispatched to central Bosnia, where they are reported to be unhappy over their assignment far from any lines of confrontation and without any obvious duties.

Meanwhile, the self-styled Bosnian Serb parliament Friday set the time for its critical debate next week on a Bosnian peace plan, which Bosnian Serb strongman Radovan Karadzic has blazed at despite Western pressure.

The debate, which had already been announced for Monday, will be held at 10 a.m. (0800 GMT).

It will take place in the Serb stronghold of Pale, southeast of the Bosnian capital Sarajevo.

Though Mr. Karadzic, "president" of the self-proclaimed Bosnian Serb Republic, has openly dismissed the internationally backed plan as "incomplete," he has not advised the Serb parliament to either reject it or accept it.

## Russian parliament condemns U.S. resolution on Estonia

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Russia's parliament Friday condemned a U.S. Senate resolution demanding that Moscow withdraw its troops from Estonia by the end of August.

The State Duma, parliament's lower house, said in a statement that the resolution, which linked more U.S. aid to the withdrawal of troops, was an attempt to interfere in the internal affairs of Russia and Estonia.

"The fact that the U.S. Senate passed a resolution saying Russia will not get additional economic aid if it does not withdraw its troops from Estonia before Aug. 31 is seen as a move directed at the disruption of efforts to establish good neighbourly relations between Russia and Estonia," it said.

Russia has pulled its forces out of Lithuania and has agreed to quit Latvia by the end of August.

But it has no deal with Estonia and has linked the removal of its 2,500 troops to the treatment of Russian-speakers and the rights of Russian military pensioners in the Baltic republic.

The U.S. move undermined relations between Russia and the United States, said the Duma statement, which was passed by 228 votes to 14.

Vladimir Lukin, chairman of parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee was quoted by Russian Information Agency (RIA) as saying the Senate resolution was "either stupid or provocative."

Russia and Estonia should be left in peace until the end of the month to sort out the withdrawal, he added.

Estonian leaders called this week for the international community to press Russia to keep to the Aug. 31 deadline.

The head of the Russian Foreign Ministry's Department for International Humanitarian and Cultural Cooperation, Vyacheslav Bakhtin, was quoted by RIA as saying there was no doubt the troops would be pulled out.

"The question of the date is not a question of the withdrawal of the troops in principle," he said.

But he said: "Fixing a precise timetable is a matter for the two states," adding that it was hardly advisable for Russia to pull out by Aug. 31 while bilateral problems were unresolved.

The U.S. Senate's vote Wednesday was an amendment to a foreign aid bill which provides \$839 million in aid for Russia and the other former Soviet republics.

## Lagos residents shocked, remain calm after Abiola refused bail

LAGOS (AFP) — Lagos residents remained calm Friday, trying to take in Thursday's shock refusal of an Abuja Federal High Court to grant bail to Chief Moshood Abiola, the main opposition figure, who has been charged with treason.

There was no unusual deployment of troops on the roads of the capital, most of which were completely deserted of vehicles because of a petrol scarcity brought about by an oil workers' strike.

There were also no reports of demonstrations in the metropolis of six million inhabitants.

Lagos, the nation's commercial capital, was in a state of suspense Thursday evening following a report in an evening newspaper which said Mr. Abiola, and some detained trade unionists, had been ordered released by the government.

Mr. Abiola's wife, Doyin, denied, in an interview with AFP late Thursday in Abuja, that her husband had been freed. She attended the court hearing earlier in the day.

The oil workers' strike, which has almost completely ground business activity to a halt, entered its 12th day Friday and a solution did not seem to be imminent.

Mr. Abiola, the self-proclaimed winner of last year's presidential elections, annulled by the military, is at the centre of the crisis, which analysts said is threatening to totally paralyse the nation's economy.

The strikers are demanding the immediate release of Mr. Abiola, whom they consider the "symbol" of the sovereign will of the people, expressed during the election, and his inauguration as president.

Most residents in Lagos, interviewed by AFP, expressed shock and indignation at the court's refusal to grant bail to the politician, arrested at his home last month for proclaiming himself president.

The court, especially created this month to judge him, refused bail on the grounds that his application had not been properly filed by his lawyer, Alao Aka-Bashorun.

The news of the court's decision to refuse bail was the lead story on the front page of most newspapers here Friday.

"The issue is also the main topic of discussion on the streets and in the few offices that opened Friday, an AFP correspondent reports.

The cost of inter-city and inter-state transport has shot up by between 500 and 1,000 per cent in the past 48 hours, making movement of persons and goods almost impossible, sources at garages said.

## 12 L. American nations may join force for Haiti

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Twelve Latin American countries have agreed to contribute troops to a peacekeeping force to be deployed in Haiti once the Caribbean nation's military rulers have been ousted, the White House said Thursday.

U.N. Ambassador Madeleine Albright said the other countries had pledged up to 4,000 troops for "peacekeeping and assisting in the reconstruction of a Haitian professional military and police."

But Vice President Al Gore said an invasion of Haiti "certainly is not imminent."

Mr. Gore, in a taped interview with Canadian Television, said the administration first wanted to see whether sanctions would work. "Let us evaluate whether or not this might increase the pressure to the point where a negotiated solution might be feasible," he said.

Earlier, Haiti's exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide called for speedy action to force out the military rulers in an apparent turnaround from remarks he made last week.

"It is up to the international community to take swift and definitive action to ensure compliance by the coup leaders with the Governors Island agreement," he said, adding however that Haiti's constitution bars him from asking for a military intervention.

Mr. Aristide, who was ousted in a 1991 coup, said in an interview on National Public Radio last week "I am against a military invasion," prompting comment that he was hobbling U.S. efforts to marshal support for an armed intervention.

Several lawmakers have warned against an invasion, including Democrat Senator Sam Nunn, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, who said Thursday he opposed going into Haiti "without having a coalition."

Senate Republican leader Robert Dole Wednesday proposed forming a committee on Haiti to stop the momentum toward invasion.

"It appears the administration is dead set on an invasion course," he said. "The last thing we should do is shoot first and ask questions later."

White House spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers said Thursday the administration opposed Gen. Dole's committee idea — which was defeated Thursday in a 57-42 vote — but administration officials appear to be heading the cautionary mood on Capitol Hill.

Ms. Myers also said Thursday that no invasion was imminent and that sanctions should be given more time to wear down the military.

To that end, the State Department announced it would begin broadcasting messages from Mr. Aristide to Haiti "countering misinformation" from the de facto regime and outlining plans for the aftermath of their ouster.

In Port-Au-Prince, about a thousand supporters of the military, including several members of parliament and political leaders, staged a demonstration against foreign military intervention.

Army chief General Raoul Cedras, who led the coup against Mr. Aristide, has made no move to honour the accord he signed on Governors Island last year which calls for Mr. Aristide's return.

"We are at an impasse," a Western diplomat in Haiti

acknowledged.

"It is becoming increasingly obvious that the military is not going to give in because of the sanctions and, considering international opposition to a military invasion, the only thing left is to go back to negotiating," he said.

And the military, which ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide in 1991, agrees.

"If they want to invade let them do it and face the consequences," said a military official.

Those words may sound like posturing from a country with only some 7,000 troops, but the military has in fact been giving as good as it gets so far.

An outraged international community has been slapping more and more sanctions against the Caribbean nation only to have the military respond tit-for-tat.

The latest act of defiance came Wednesday when international human rights monitors were forced to leave the country on orders from the military.

Despite Ms. Albright's announcement of Latin American cooperation in peacekeeping place, international opposition to a unilateral U.S. invasion is holding steady.

Jamaica's Prime Minister P.J. Patterson said after a meeting with Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien in Ottawa that the Caribbean nations and Canada had agreed to oppose a military invasion unless it is pre-approved by the U.N. Security Council.

He added, however, the countries believe "we are not very far" from getting such approval.

With the help of U.S. milit-

ary aircraft, deposed Mr. Aristide is beginning broadcasts to the Haitian people Friday to describe the policies he will pursue if he returns to power.

A State Department statement quotes Mr. Aristide as saying the broadcasts "will serve as a crucial antidote to the false fears that have been fuelled by opponents of democracy" during the 33 months since he was ousted.

An EC-130 Turboprop will serve as a flying radio station, broadcasting signals that can be picked up on the ground. Mr. Aristide will tape the "radio democracy" broadcasts from Washington, where he lives in exile.

The operation is one of a number of steps taken by the Clinton administration in an effort to force the surrender of Haiti's military and promote a smooth transition back to the elected leadership. But some U.S. officials doubt Mr. Aristide will return before his term expires in early 1996.

The broadcast operation has been the subject of acrimony between the Aristide camp and U.S. officials since negotiations began 18 months ago. Aides to Mr. Aristide accused the U.S. side of foot-dragging.

U.S. officials wanted Mr. Aristide to use the broadcasts to try to dissuade Haitians from fleeing Haiti by boat. But Mr. Aristide has said he could not urge his countrymen to remain in what he likes to call a "house on fire," a reference to the deteriorating human rights situation in Haiti.

Mr. Aristide prevailed in that argument. The Clinton administration is using private radio stations in Haiti to disseminate its message about the perils of fleeing by boat.

## N. Irish extremists responsible for attack

BELFAST (Agencies) — Protestant extremists claimed responsibility Friday for a Northern Ireland shooting in which a Roman Catholic businessman was critically wounded.

Police are questioning two men in connection with the attack.

The overnight shooting has intensified fears of a spate of tit-for-tat killings by Protestant militants seeking to keep Northern Ireland British and their Irish Republican Army (IRA) foe fighting a guerrilla campaign for a united Ireland.

The Protestant Ulster Freedom Fighters (UFF) group said it was responsible for the attack on the 48-year-old businessman, who was in a critical condition after being shot in the chest in the village of dromore, southwest of Belfast.

In a statement released Friday, the UFF also said it was behind the killing of a 33-year-old Catholic man at a golf course last Saturday.

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in Brussels later Friday.

Meanwhile, police Thursday issued an artist's impression of a man they want to question, following the seizure Tuesday of almost two tonnes of explosives hidden in a lorry ferried to England from Northern Ireland.

After he was told the lorry had not been passed for collection, the man did not return, but his blue boiler suit was found nearby.

It is believed he must have noticed the security check and realised the explosives would be found.

Police said Tuesday they could have caused a blast as big as, if not bigger than, the Bishopsgate attack in the City of London last year, which killed a photographer and wounded 44 people.

## Astronomers prepare for biggest crash

CAPE TOWN (R) — Astronomers in South Africa will have a ringside seat for the biggest solar system collision of the century when the first segments of a comet smash into Jupiter Saturday.

Or it could turn out to be the biggest fizzle after months of excitement.

Astronomers from around the world have gathered at the Sutherland Observatory in the dry winter air of the semi-desert Karoo Region, 275 kilometres northeast of Cape Town, to witness the comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 plunge into Jupiter.

The first of a string of comet fragments is due to hit the far side of the huge planet at 1954 GMT (universal time, or UT, to astronomers) Saturday, the last is due on July 22.

Astronomer Dave Lanev told Reuters the collision could be as cataclysmic as the one that scientists say could have ended the age of the dinosaurs on Earth 65 million years ago.

But if the comet fragments disintegrated before they hit Jupiter, it would be no more than a meteor shower.

"All the little chunks will burn up in Jupiter's gaseous atmosphere and that will be it," said Mr. Lanev, who is based at Cape Town's South African Astronomical Observatory (SAAO).

One thing is certain, however. World attention will focus on the four telescopes under the 40-metre dome of the Sutherland Observatory as it transmits images of the first collision.

Observations will be impeded because the fragments will crash into the side of Jupiter facing away from Earth.

"But Jupiter rotates very rapidly, and within eight minutes of the impact the site of the crash will be visible," Mr. Lanev said.

"We will be looking for reflections of the explosions

on three of Jupiter's 16 moons. We'll also take electronic pictures in visible light and infra-red to look for plumes of gases from the impact and for new storms or other disturbances in the clouds.

"But even if we see nothing, that will actually tell us something. We will know much more about comets than we did before," Mr. Lanev said.

Astronomers from New York, Hawaii, Japan and South Africa will operate the telescopes.

"Of all the world's observatories, only Sutherland is well placed to view the first impact on July 16," Mr. Lanev said.

"South African telescopes have the same privileged position for four of the remaining 20 impacts, including the largest fragment on July 20," said Hilda Van Rooyen of the State Science Council's, Foundation for Research Development (FRD).



## Jordan Times

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**GEORGE S. HAWATMEH**

Editorial and advertising offices:  
 Jordana Press Foundation,  
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### Giant step in peace march

THE MEETING between His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in Washington on July 25 would not come out of a vacuum. Nor would it mean, as some opposition figures might contend, a surrender to Israeli designs or an abandonment of the other Arab parties and Arab rights. Jordan and the Jordanian leadership have always stood for peace that would restore full Arab rights. Jordan had participated in formulating and readily accepted U.N. Security Council resolution 242 when it was passed in 1967. The Kingdom also accepted in 1973 resolution 238, which called for the immediate implementation of 242 based on negotiations. Both resolutions anyway call for a negotiated settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of the exchange of occupied Arab lands for peace.

As His Majesty King Hussein asserted in a speech to army officers broadcast yesterday, Jordan will not sign a peace treaty with Israel until the Kingdom restores its full rights in territory and water and until all the items on the agenda for talks with Israel, signed in Washington on Sept. 14, are addressed and resolved. At a time when the Israelis declare their intention to return the Golan Heights to Syria and to withdraw from South Lebanon and while the Palestinians are fully engaging the Israelis in the autonomy talks, Jordan cannot sit and wait for its destiny to be decided by whatever progress (or lack of it) is made on the other tracks.

The King has always described the peace that Jordan would like to see as one that is just, comprehensive and lasting. During his meeting with the King on June 22, and when he announced the July 25 meeting yesterday, President Bill Clinton pledged his administration's support for a "comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East." That kind of peace, for which Jordan has campaigned since 1967 and even before, cannot certainly be achieved without the full engagement of Jordan, as well as the Palestinians, the Syrians, the Lebanese and the Egyptians.

In his announcement yesterday, President Clinton praised the King and the Israeli prime minister for the "courageous leadership and the bold vision which both... have displayed as they work together to create a new future for their people and for all the region." That also is what the King had told both Parliament and government in his address on July 9, when he said that he would do anything for the well-being of Jordan and Jordanians.

If the process could bring peace and prosperity to Jordan and Jordanians, without compromising Arab rights, then we should not hesitate to support it. Peace is not only a dream or a vision. It requires vision, strong will and hard work. And that is what Jordanian negotiators, whether at the Dead Sea hotel, in Wadi Araba or in Washington will require and do. When His Majesty the King meets the Israeli prime minister in Washington July 25 he will be doing his utmost to push the peace effort forward. There will be no peace treaty to sign. But it is going to be a major step towards real and just peace, let it enjoy our full blessing and support.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

CERTAIN ARAB forces seem to be determined to rekindle the war in Yemen which has militarily ended, with the Sanaa forces crushing the southern rebellion, charged Tareq Masarweh in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Friday. The writer said that there were hints about possibilities for renewed clashes and disturbances in a statement given to the French newspaper Le Figaro by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak who was quoted as saying the crisis in Yemen did not end with the Sanaa victory but only started. Also Saudi Arabia, which was behind encouraging the southerners to rebel, were very active during the conflict trying to convince the U.S. administration to impose a blockade on Yemen to force Sanaa forces to retreat, said the writer. Saudi Arabia had hoped to see a scenario in Yemen similar to that which occurred in Iraq after foreign powers imposed their will on the Shia forces following the devastation of the Iraqi army and military power, said the writer. But, he said, Sanaa was cleverer than the other Arab states because it was prompt on taking moves for reconciliation with the Socialist Party in the south, a move that would see an end to internal struggle and lead to a stronger unity between the north and south.

### Jordanian Perspective

## In pursuit of Jordan's legitimate rights

THIS WEEK MARKS a major turn in Jordan's quest for an end to the key problem plaguing its every movement and free itself from the shackles of a conflict that hampered its progress and development over the last four decades. For the first time, Jordanian and Israeli delegates will meet in the region to discuss the core issues of conflict between the two countries and the Israeli foreign minister will set foot in the Kingdom, crossing the King Hussein Bridge for a few hours stay to attend a joint meeting with his Jordanian and American counterparts.

We don't know yet the shape of a peace settlement; there are many issues and side issues that would crop up when Jordan and Israel sit down in the Wadi Araba desert frontier to negotiate border demarcation and water rights. But one thing is clear: Monday's meeting of peace negotiators and Wednesday's trilateral meeting of the foreign ministers are two events which will cement the reality of the irreversibility of the peace process.

Quite understandably, the events that will take place this week have ruffled feathers among some Jordanians and political groupings which assert that the negotiations would lead to the surrender of Arab rights. That is their perception, and in the age of democracy that we are living through in Jordan it is indeed their right to express their opinions in public. But what is disturbing is the reaction that their words may draw from their supporters who may not actually realise that some of the loud declarations and denunciations of the peace process serve a political purpose for those who make them. If anything, some groups oppose the peace process for the sake of opposing something and adopt that as a raison d'être.

But the danger lies in the possibility that some of the supporters of such groups may take those statements on their face value and turn towards unilateral actions that do not serve national interests. That is where the responsibility of those who make those statements rests, and the major

question here is how far are they aware that their comments could lead to repercussions beyond their control. Political freedoms are indeed very important, but they do not come without responsibility. One can only hope that those in positions where they could influence people appreciate this responsibility and act accordingly.

The significance of the site for the negotiations should not be lost on anyone. First and foremost, the talks are held in undisputed territory to discuss usurped territory and water rights. What better setting could such talks have than the constant reminder that the vast expanse of the desert provides of the importance of the rights of everyone?

No doubt, every Jordanian eye will be focused on the events unfolding in the southern desert this week. By virtue of the fact that economic cooperation hinges on the outcome of the negotiations on borders and water rights, there cannot be any escape from the impact of those talks on our daily life even for those who appear indifferent to the entire process. The quicker we make progress, the better for all of us in terms of getting rid of inhibitions and shackles on development and progress.

Of course that does not mean that Jordanians are anxious to embrace the Israelis and do business with them tomorrow. If anything, our eyes are not on the western side of the river at all.

On the contrary, we are looking both east and west of the globe for people who have the potential and capital to develop our region but who have been holding themselves back because of the tension and conflict that we have been and still are living through.

The first order of business is to set in motion the process of resolving the core issues of conflict between Jordan and Israel. And that is what is hopefully going to happen in the desert this week.

Jordan has its priorities and national interests just as its Arab partners in the peace process have. The Kingdom has

always given priority to the larger common Arab interests in the spirit of fraternity, but what it got in return has been disappointing. There is no sense in Jordan holding itself back, awaiting others to move forward, and losing in the bargain in the end.

After holding themselves back for long with high hopes that Arab coordination and united action would materialise to a minimum level that would boost the Arab hand in the negotiations, our leaders have stepped forward with courage to enter serious talks with Israel.

The situation will be very clear if one recalls the words of His Majesty King Hussein: "Is there a rule that Jordan should remain behind everyone else?" or wait eternally for that matter until all others settle their problems along their lines of priority and interests?

We will not be negotiating on anyone's behalf nor compromising anyone's negotiations with Israel. It is purely Jordanian national interests and rights that are going to be discussed with Israel, hopefully paving the way for launching substantive moves on economic cooperation after we are satisfied that our territorial and water rights are respected and protected.

Jordan can only be Jordanian; it cannot be Palestinian, Syrian, Lebanese or anything else. The leadership of the country has an obligation to their people in terms of ending tension and conflict and setting the ground for a better standard of living. And this is what our leadership is doing.

Jordan is not going to this week's negotiations under the threat of a shotgun; nor are there any preconditions attached. It is a pragmatic and logical choice of the Kingdom, which is seeking honourable peace based on national rights and international legitimacy. If Jordan's exercising of its options does not suit the interests of others, the least we can say is tough luck.

### THE WEEK IN PRINT

## Wadi Araba talks necessary for regaining Jordan's rights

Reviewed by Elia Nasrallah

IN THE past week the Arabic daily papers focused attention on the coming Jordanian-Israeli negotiations, Middle East issues, Yemen and a number of domestic affairs.

In discussing the coming Jordanian-Israeli talks over Jordan's land and water rights, a columnist in Al Ra'i daily said that the Kingdom faces a very serious situation and has no alternative but to pursue its current policies in the peace process and regain its lost rights. Tareq Masarweh said that Jordan has found itself alone with no Arab or foreign powers on which it can lean for real support and has found that no real coordination among the Arab parties involved in the peace process exists. Indeed, the Palestinians have chosen their own path to deal with Israel, while the Yemenis are still licking their wounds after the war, added the writer. He said that given a strong united internal front, Jordan, which has legitimate rights, can and will regain its usurped rights in the coming negotiations.

Akher Khabar weekly said in an editorial that Jordan has no alternative but to negotiate with Israel to regain its rights at a time when the peace process is achieving progress on the other tracks. The paper said that Jordan is in need to reassert its identity, get rid of its foreign debts, rescue its economy and terminate the blockade imposed on its sole sea port.

Sultan Al Hattab, a columnist in Al Ra'i daily, voiced support for His Majesty King Hussein's efforts to regain Jordan's rights but said that the coming negotiations would only succeed if the Israelis openly admitted that Jordan's claims were legitimate. The writer said that Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres's recent statement that Jordan is not a substitute homeland for the Palestinians was encouraging, but it remains to be seen whether the Israelis would be willing to agree to Jordan's demands and return the usurped rights. The coming talks in Wadi Araba, said the writer, constitute a real challenge for the peace process and also for Jordanian will to secure Jordan's rights.

A columnist in Al Dustour described as sinister a Vatican proposal to settle the question of Jerusalem before the completion of the autonomy rule in Palestine. Musa Keilani said that His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan did well by nipping the Vatican's idea in the bud and stressing that there can be no question about the legitimacy of the Arab sovereignty over the holy city. The writer was referring to Vatican's Foreign Minister Jean-Luis



Tauran's statements which the writer described as paving the ground for internationalising the holy city. He said that Archbishop Tauran had presented the idea under the pretext that during the autonomy rule the status of the holy places could be endangered and, therefore, they require international control.

George Haddad, another columnist for Al Dustour, said that the Arabs do not resent peace provided it is based on justice. Peace does not depend on manifesting good intentions by mere words and promises but rather by practical steps that would lead to a real and equitable partnership, said the writer. There must not be a forced peace because that would resemble forced marriage which is another form of rape, added the writer. The writer said that continued usurpation of Arab land and wealth can never be conducive to peace.

Saleh Qallab levelled criticism at the Palestine National Authority whose police force was reported to have tortured a detainee to death. The columnist, who writes for Al Dustour, said such a practice represents a time bomb that could blow up in the face of Palestine leader Yasser Arafat at any time. Urging Mr. Arafat to open immediate investigation into the reported incident, the writer said that should the culprits escape punishment the whole Palestinian image would be distorted and the Palestine

National Authority would lose credibility.

Discussing Yemen in the aftermath of the bloody war, Taher Al Udwan, a writer for Al Dustour, said that the end of the war does not mean an end to its underlying causes. The Sanaa leadership should realise that the Socialist Party which it fought against is not dead and that the party cadres who had fought British colonialism are worthy of partnership in the leadership of the country. The writer said that the Socialist Party would remain in place and Sanaa would do well to seek its partnership in governing the country if it seeks to retain unity.

Sawt Al Shaab daily praised the Yemeni leadership in Sanaa for promptly acting to bring about reconciliation among the Yemeni people through its announcement of a general amnesty. That was a very wise and positive step on the part of Sanaa aimed at creating a very opportune atmosphere for reconciliation and stability, said the paper. What is needed now is a strong internal unity so that the Yemeni people could turn their attention towards reconstruction and development, added the daily.

Salameh Ekour, a columnist with Sawt Al Shaab, criticised employers in Jordanian businesses for giving priority in jobs to guest workers, Jordanian

workers can easily be employed at gas stations, selling newspapers, driving cars and serving in cafes, restaurants and hotels, said the writer. Instead, we find that Indian, Egyptian, Pakistani and other guest workers are being employed in these occupations, depriving the Jordanian job-seekers of decent living, added the writer. Unemployment, warned the writer, can breed hatred and malice and can pave the way for security imbalances which would eventually become detrimental to the country's stability and future.

A writer in Al Dustour drew attention to the need for greater measure of attention to be turned towards the remote regions of Jordan. The government has been showing its real interest in developing the badia and the other remote regions, and perhaps the decentralised policy the government has started to implement would help achieve the aspired goals, said the writer. But he said the remote regions abound with unemployed citizens awaiting investment projects by the private sector which, said the writer, can reap great benefits from investments in the underdeveloped regions. He said that investments in industrial and agricultural fields are certain to yield good results for the country as a whole and for the local residents and the private firms as well.

### LETTERS

#### Toward a better life

To the Editor:

Failure to establish population stabilisation as the highest priority of development would be committing the ultimate global blunder, one from which there is no recovery. In this coming generation, three billion young people, equal to the entire population of the world as recently as 1960, will enter their reproductive years.

It is often difficult to comprehend the magnitude of the global population problem. That is because we live in a demographically divided world. Ninety five per cent of the 100 newcomers were born in the developing countries.

In the coming six years, forests will be cut equal to 15 times the size of Jordan. The national academies of science of some countries believe that as a result of deforestation, we are losing 10,000 species annually, many before we are able to analyse.

Five per cent of all remaining tropical-rain forest located in Brazil, Zaire and Indonesia, the most populous countries who have not adopted an effective conservation policy. Governments sell their precious natural resources for foreign exchange, sometimes borrow beyond normal collateral demands.

When we destroy the forests and lose the topsoil, desertification is inevitable. Within six years from now, new deserts will occupy this earth at one and half times the size of the continental United States. This expansion will occur in Africa, the world's fastest growing continent. The population of Africa today is 700 million people, it is expected to double in 24 years.

In the developing countries people move to the cities seeking better life. What happens? They create chaos, traffic snarls, housing shortages, health problems, unemployment and urban violence. Those frustrated people struggle to survive at any cost. Half of the world's population will be living in cities by the year 2000.

It is estimated that there are 500 million women in the world who either want no more pregnancies, or did not want their last pregnancy. But they lack the information, education and the means to do something about it. Empowering these women to decide when to get pregnant and how often, as well as providing them with the means to control their fertility, will ensure that the world population stabilises at eight billion rather than 11 billion or more.

Omayya R. Abdel-Hadi,  
 3701 Georgemason Dr.,  
 Fallschurch, Va. 22041,  
 U.S.

#### No smoking please!

To the Editor:

At a time when U.S. tobacco companies are under attack in their own country, and their management is facing possible perjury charges in the U.S. Congress, it must be gratifying that a tender to supply tobacco to Jordan is imminent (Jordan Times article "Government to purchase U.S. staples, tobacco," Tuesday, July 12).

The prominence of this tender is evident due to its approval at a regular cabinet session and by the fact that a delegation led by the minister of supply himself will be travelling to the United States to negotiate this, along with the purchase of wheat, rice and milk.

It seems ironic that while industrialised countries are becoming more and more aware of the harmful effects of tobacco, Jordan spends time at cabinet meetings ensuring the supply of a drug which has proven itself to be one of the major causes of cancer and heart disease in the world. Cigarette smoking is a major problem in Jordan and an awareness campaign to highlight its dangers was run on Jordan Television this year. What is the mixed message been sent here? One shouldn't smoke, yet the government will ensure that cigarettes are available to all the citizens.

All of this while basic medications, such as neomercazol, for thyroid treatment are unavailable in Jordan and have to be purchased outside the country. Perhaps it is time to do some deep searching and get our priorities straight. Do we need tenders for tobacco or for basic food stuff and medical supplies? Or will this tender ensure the completion and full capacity of the new cancer hospital currently under construction in Amman? Let's see, I wonder if the full cabinet will have to meet about this one?

Karen Asfour,  
 Amman.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.

Handwritten signature: *Elia Nasrallah*



## Saleh wins military victory, but has he won war?

By Youssef Azmech  
Reuters

DUBAI — Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh has won a military victory against southerners who tried to revive their independent state, but some diplomats and officials in the region question if he has really won the war.

Troops loyal to Mr. Saleh, whose superior strength and equipment gave them the upper hand from day one of the two-month war, have over the past week swept into the southern bastion of Aden and taken all major highways and military and population centres.

Southern leaders led by Mr. Saleh's former Vice-President Ali Salem Al Beidh, who set up a breakaway southern state on May 21, were forced to flee into exile.

Sanaa has declared that Mr. Beidh and his supporters who tried to secede from a four-year merger with the numerically superior North have been soundly defeated and that unity for the 13 million people of Yemen is now assured.

But some diplomats and officials say Mr. Saleh's victory may be short-lived.

"Despite 19th century precedents, military action was probably not the best way to unite a people in the 1990s," one Western diplomat said.

"It is difficult to see how Saleh could keep the country united if southerners switched to a guerrilla war that could be sustained from bases across Yemen's border," he added.

Mr. Saleh's southern opponents inside and outside the country may be licking their wounds for the moment and the people of Aden may be delighted that its siege has been lifted, the diplomats said. But they

said southern grievances were likely to lead to fresh resistance sooner or later.

The diplomats and officials said Mr. Saleh has yet to win over a southern population that has suffered what many considered an invasion and occupation by his superior forces.

Southern leaders in exile say that although they have lost the conventional war, their fighters will continue a guerrilla campaign against Mr. Saleh's forces until southern independence, which they signed away in 1990, is restored.

Mr. Saleh also has to rebuild an impoverished economy battered further by the war and unlikely to get much help from a largely critical Western world.

And, crucially, he faces hostility from neighbours who determined to prevent him from creating another Iraq in the opposite corner of the Arabian Peninsula.

Sanaa maintains that Mr. Beidh and his supporters represented a small faction in the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP), which won all southern seats in Yemen's first democratic elections last year.

Government sources in Sanaa said recently that Mr. Saleh was trying to form a new coalition government including YSP members and other southerners.

Despite persistent claims by Sanaa that it was only reacting to provocation by rebels and traitors, even southerners who had no sympathy for the former Marxist YSP were shocked by Mr. Saleh's determination to bring the south to heel, whatever the cost.

Northern sources have put the total number of casualties in the fighting that started on May 4 at about 7,000. No separate breakdown was available on how many were killed or wounded.

## Saleh moves to appease Gulf neighbours

By Youssef Azmech  
Reuters

DUBAI — Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh, virtually isolated in a corner of the Arabian Peninsula, has moved quickly to repair ties with powerful Saudi-led Gulf Arabs who opposed his use of force to crush southern dissent.

Diplomats in the region said Mr. Saleh was apparently trying to pre-empt any action by his neighbours that may encourage southern leaders who fled abroad to foment trouble in southern areas he has recaptured after two months of civil war.

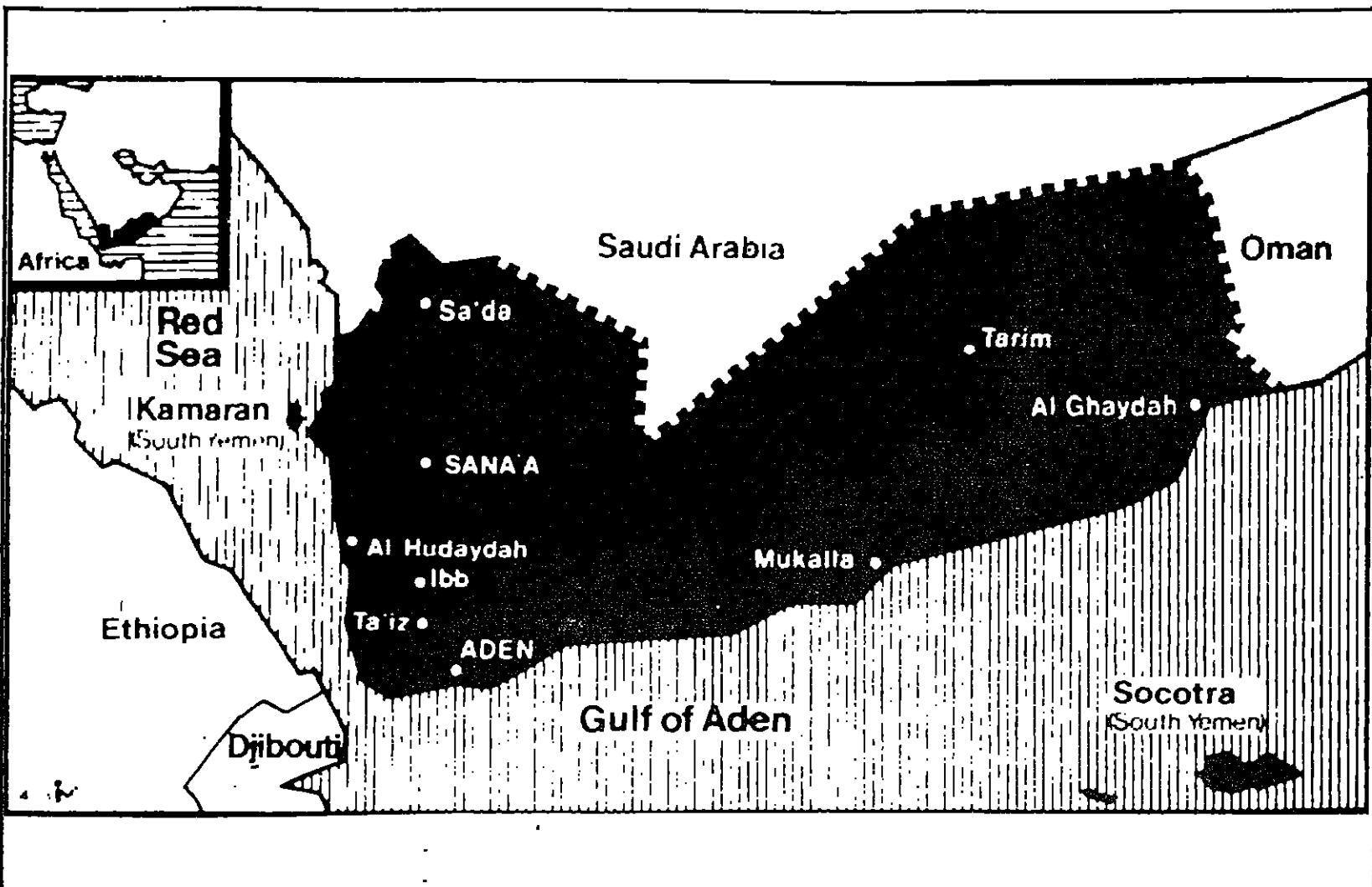
He was also seeking to reassure Saudi Arabia and others in the Gulf that Sanaa would be a good neighbour and that they should not see his ties with Iraq, Iran and Sudan as directed against them, the diplomats said.

Mr. Saleh summoned the Saudi ambassador to Sanaa on Sunday to pass on a message to Saudi Arabia's King Fahd expressing his government's "eagerness to turn over a new leaf in Yemeni-Saudi relations," Sanaa radio reported.

Mr. Saleh, who took control in the southern bastion of Aden last week after driving out secessionist opponents, has set repairing relations with Saudi Arabia and other Gulf Arabs as one of his top priorities.

His prime minister, Mohammad Said Al Attar, sent a letter to the U.N. only hours after Mr. Saleh's military victory on July 7, pledging, among other things, to promote relations with neighbours in the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf.

Mr. Saleh called United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zaid Bin Sultan Al Nahayan by telephone the day after the fall of Aden, apparently trying to appease the one Gulf leader



er who has openly chided him for using force against southern Yemenis.

Gulf diplomats said that these unusual overtures by a man trying busily to rebuild a country shattered by two months of civil war signalled Sanaa's deep worry about the consequences of continued hostility by angry and rich neighbours.

The moves came despite reports, rarely confirmed by named officials, that southern secessionists received significant military and financial aid from Gulf neighbours.

The diplomats said Mr. Saleh, now that he has won his war, was aware that the onus was on him to bring

around Gulf states that have yet to forgive him for showing sympathy with Iraq after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

His Gulf war stance led to a cut in vital Gulf aid to impoverished Yemen and the expulsion of hundreds of thousands of expatriate Yemeni workers from the oil states of the region.

Gulf states fear that a strong, united Yemen of 13 million people in a thinly populated peninsula might covet their riches, they said.

Gulf states are also deeply suspicious of Sanaa's relations with the anti-Western regional powers and of Mr. Saleh's domestic

alliance with Muslim fundamentalist forces antagonistic to Saudi Arabia and other Gulf Arabs, they added.

Despite Mr. Saleh's approaches, Saudi Arabia had so far kept its distance and seems to be maintaining its hostility towards Sanaa. It has given refuge to Mr. Saleh's exiled opponents and lobbied hard at the U.N. and the Group of Seven (G-7) meeting of the world's richest nations to maintain Sanaa's isolation.

Prince Bandar Bin Sultan, Saudi Arabia's influential Washington ambassador and a nephew of King Fahd, flew unexpectedly to Naples on July 8 on the eve

of the G-7 summit.

Western officials said he pleaded for help to prevent the Yemen war from sowing instability elsewhere in the region — in effect calling for Mr. Saleh's isolation.

His dramatic move came after the fall of Aden and most of the South to Mr. Saleh's superior forces. It came after a Saudi cabinet statement on July 6 calling for a Yemen ceasefire on the day Aden fell.

The Group of Seven, whose members see Saudi Arabia as the principal ally in the region, rewarded it with a brief mention of Yemen in the final communique on Sunday.

It urged Sanaa to resolve political differences through dialogue and peaceful means and "ensure that the humanitarian situation, particularly in and around Aden, is addressed," — words that reflected the official Saudi position.

But the statement only implicitly indicted Mr. Saleh's use of force, without naming him as the guilty party.

The diplomats said the West, led by the United States, had consistently refused to take sides openly in the Yemen conflict and maintained support for Yemen's integrity.

## King to meet Rabin on July 25

(Continued from page 1)

ped in and hosted the landmark White House ceremony at which Mr. Rabin and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat shook hands, effectively sending the Palestinians down the road to self-rule.

Mr. Christopher described the pending summit as "an event that transforms the landscape."

"The Middle East is really entering a new era," Mr. Christopher said, "and the opportunity to have that happen is one we wanted to grasp as soon as possible."

Mr. Christopher said the meeting, however, will not result in the signing of a peace treaty. He said it would "confirm and give concrete form to the interest of the leaders in moving toward a final rapprochement."

"It's essential that they move forward in these discussions and I am prepared to engage intensively with them," Mr. Christopher told reporters at the White House.

He said that his talks in the region would include the Jordanian, Palestinian and Syrian tracks.

The secretary of state also said that when he met with Arafat he would point out "steps he must take to assure accountability" to countries that have pledged financial assistance to the Palestinians.

"I plan to meet with Chairman Arafat and to review with him the steps that we and the international community are taking to ensure that the Palestinians have the support they need," Mr. Christopher said.

Mr. Arafat has been urging donors to disburse pledged funds to help him get about the work of administering in the Palestinian self-rule territories.

Meanwhile, Jordanian and Israeli officials ended technical talks at a Dead Sea hotel on Friday to prepare for a groundbreaking meeting next week of Mr. Christopher and his Israeli and Jordanian counterparts.

"The two delegations ended their talks and left the hotel together," a hotel official told Reuters.

The Israeli team crossed into the Kingdom via the Jordan River bridge on Friday marking the first time any Israeli officials publicly set foot on Jordanian soil since 1948.

They were whisked to Jordan's heavily-guarded Dead Sea Spa hotel set to enter history when it hosts the July 20 meeting between Mr. Christopher, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who is also foreign minister.

Mr. Peres will become the first top Israeli official to visit Jordan when he flies to the hotel in a helicopter next week.

The three men will sit on a U-shaped table and the opening ceremony and respective speeches will be beamed live by Jordan, Israel and other television networks.

"It was a business-like meeting to discuss preparations and technical details for the July 20 talks," a Jordanian official told Reuters.

He gave no further details and journalists were banned from approaching the hotel, an hour's drive from Amman.

An Israeli foreign ministry spokeswoman said the advance team to the hotel talks was led by the ministry's deputy director-general, Eitan Ben-Zur.

They met Marwan Muasher, spokesman for Jordan's peace team, and the Foreign Ministry's Omar Al Rifai.

Talks on border demarcation, water and other issues open on July 18 at a desert outpost on the Jordanian-Israeli ceasefire line some 13 kilometres north Aqaba and Eilat, both on the Red Sea.

Jordanian and Israeli officials said the negotiating table at the July 18 talks would be right on the ceasefire line with negotiators sitting on their respective sides of the divide.

The talks to be attended in Jordan by Mr. Peres two days later will centre on economic cooperation.

Dr. Muasher said on Thursday the sides would iron out minor differences over the July 18 talks on Sunday, a day before they open. They had a preparatory meeting in the southern desert site on Wednesday.

King Hussein told the Parliament last Saturday that he would not hesitate to meet with Mr. Rabin if "it is a service for my country, which is facing threats from all directions."

In occupied Jerusalem, Mr. Rabin's office released a message sent by Mr. Clinton to the Jordanian and the Israeli leaders.

Just before making the announcement, Mr. Clinton

called Syrian President Hafez Al Assad to inform him about the Israel-Jordan progress.

A Hebrew version of the Clinton talks translated by the AP said:

"I'm happy to announce today that the Jordan's King Hussein and the prime minister of Israel, Yitzhak Rabin, have accepted my invitation to meet in the White House on July 25.

"This historic meeting is another big step forward in reaching a comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

"The meeting is the result of dramatic progress reached in trilateral U.S.-Jordanian-Israeli talks here in Washington last month and of additional bilateral and trilateral meetings that will be held between the sides in the region next week with the participation of the United States.

"It reflects the courageous leadership and the brave vision that both King Hussein and Prime Minister Rabin have demonstrated and are demonstrating in their joint effort to build a new future for their peoples and for the whole region.

"In the name of the American people, I salute this commitment to peace.

"I pledge to dedicate my efforts to the objective of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East. In this spirit, Secretary of State Christopher will travel to the region next week.

"He will continue with our efforts to make progress in the Israeli-American talks and will meet with Chairman Arafat in order to review the progress in implementing the declaration of principles of Palestinian self-rule.

The Middle East has entered a new era. We will do everything in our power so that all peoples of the region will enjoy the blessings of peace that they were deprived of for such a long time."

### Sanaa sets new measures

(Continued from page 1)

months.

The YSP had 61 deputies out of 301 in the pre-war parliament.

The assembly's work was paralysed by the long-running dispute between northerners and southern supporters of Mr. Beidh which followed the 1990 merger of the former Marxist South and conservative North Yemen.

## Address to Congress significant

(Continued from page 1)

ment on how this meeting could translate into practical gains for the Kingdom except that it "to the Jordanian side it crowns a process of improved relations with the U.S. Congress."

"It would be instrumental in breaking the mould that has characterised our relations with Congress," one of the sources said.

In short-term economic gains, the sources expected that the Washington meetings will have economic ramifications on at least three main elements of U.S.-Jordan bilateral relations: Debt relief, military aid and increased foreign aid.

Other sources familiar with the King's latest trips to the U.S. have emphasised that a lot of ground had already been broken with the U.S. Congress during His Majesty's meeting with representatives of the two chambers separately last June and that "many of their members now identify themselves as friends of Jordan."

President Bill Clinton, who announced the July 25 meeting, had indicated that some economic gains would be attached to the King Hussein-Yitzhak Rabin meeting when he said that the Washington meeting "will build on the dramatic progress made in the trilateral U.S.-Israel-Jordan meetings here in Washington last month."

He also said that Secretary of State Warren Christopher will "follow up on the discussion that (Rabin) and King Hussein have had on this initiative, and he will proceed and participate."

His Majesty, when announcing the readiness for a meeting with Mr. Rabin last week, had indicated that "ties with the United States have returned to their normal level or are on the way to that, and the U.S. administration has the will to provide military and material support to the Kingdom."

But the King pointed out that many members of the U.S. Congress are still affected by the impact of the Gulf war on Jordan-U.S. relations. He said the U.S. administration was willing to approach the Congress with plans to write off foreign debt and lift restriction on supply the Kingdom with military needs.

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## Share prices edge a little, but indicators do not look bright

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Share prices at the Amman Financial Market (AFM) improved a little after hitting an all-time low last week, but trading remained low as investors remained sceptical, brokers said Friday.

The weekly AFM report said the general share price index based on 60 major companies listed in the market closed at 145.1 points, 0.8 points, or 0.5 per cent, less than the week's opening.

That was an improvement from Tuesday's close of the index at 142.1, the lowest in one year, but a far cry from the year's high of 168 points reached in the third week of March.

Shares worth JD 3.8 million changed hands during the week compared with the previous week's JD 3.9 million and the year's weekly record of JD 21 million, also in March. The highest daily turnover was registered in July when shares worth JD 17 million changed hands.

The industrial sector accounted for JD 1.8 million of last week's turnover, followed by commercial

banks JD 1.1 million, the services sector with JD 400,000 and the insurance sector with JD 300,000.

The stocks of less than 15 companies of the nearly 90 whose shares were traded during the week showed gains and 10 remained stable. All others showed declines.

While the general price index shows only a 12 per cent decline in prices since the beginning of the year, brokers say the actual loss is close to 25 per cent and the decline is likely to continue unless investors see

that changed hands at the AFM since the beginning of the year dropped to 95.7 million compared with 158.94 million during the same period last year.

According to brokers, investors are highly sceptical and are awaiting concrete signs of economic benefits for Jordan as part of the peace process and of Jordanian firms gaining from the economic development of the Palestinians with the hundreds of millions of dollars pledged by the donors.

But if the status quo continues, brokers warned,

Jordanian stocks are destined for further losses.

Furthermore, part of the funds available in the market has been absorbed into the primary market where dozens of companies have been coming up with fresh issues to increase capital.

One of the key factors influencing investors negatively is the state of limbo in finalising an accord of modalities of implementing an economic cooperation agreement signed in January between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (see page 3).

## London Stock Exchange moves to 10-day rolling share settlement

LONDON (R) — Trading on the London Stock Exchange will undergo its biggest change since the "Big Bang" move to electronic share trading in 1986, with the start of 10-day rolling settlement on Monday.

The change marks the end of a 170-year-old practice of settling deals in a two and three week accounting system.

Under new rolling settlement rules, payment for shares bought must be received 10 days after the deal is done.

The old fixed account system allows investors to buy and sell shares throughout the period, without money changing hands, with payment due only 10 days after the close of the account period.

The fixed account system lends itself to speculative trading and for those investors who trade regularly, gives as much as 20 working

days to settle a deal.

The change is part of strategy, formulated by a Bank of England-led task force, which has set a target of five day rolling settlement in 1995.

"It will change people's trading habits, but that will evolve as rolling settlement evolves. There's very little concern about the new set-up," a senior trader at a leading British brokerage house said.

Some in the market see an increase in margin trading helping to overcome the effect of the change to rolling settlement.

Margin trading is a feature in other leading international exchanges where investors have the opportunity to trade over a broker generated "account period" which can span several months.

Investors put up a relatively small proportion of the share value traded and the broker arranges credit for the remaining amount, using the shares as security.

The strictures of 10-day rolling settlement could lead to a surge in the use of "nominee account" where brokers hold share certificates on behalf of investors.

The nominee company becomes the registered shareholder while the investor remains the beneficial owner of the shares.

Although this makes life easier for investors in terms of paperwork, the nominee company becomes the registered shareholder and is thus entitled to receive the accounts and details of shareholder votes and perks.

Company policies on nominee accounts concerning shareholders' perks varies. Food and drinks group Allied Lyons PLC said it encourages brokers to inform the company of how many shareholders it represents so that the required number of reports and accounts plus any perks can be passed on.

But shipping to construction company Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Co. PLC said there would be no change in its present position on its concessionary fare scheme, which specifically excludes shareholders in nominee accounts.

TEL AVIV (AFP) — The Israeli state carrier El Al returned a profit of \$9.9 million during 1993 on a \$947 million turnover, director general Rafi Harary has said.

It was the eighth consecutive year of profits, but considerably down on the \$31 million of 1992.

## El Al Report \$9.9m profit

Mr. Harary warned that 1994 would prove more difficult with the airline, which is still in receivership, heading towards privatisation amid a continuing crisis in the airline industry.

The number of passengers increased 10 per cent to 2,145,000 over the year which saw the opening of four new routes to Bombay and Bangkok, Barcelona and Paphos in Cyprus.

The company estimated profits could be \$20 million higher but for the exceptional security measures the airline takes against terrorism.

In June, the government announced privatisation plans for October with 51 per cent of the company to be sold off.

### Financial Markets

Jordan Times in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close 15/7/94	Tel Aviv Close 15/7/94
Sterling Pound	1.5410	1.5417
Deutsche Mark	1.5413	1.5421
Swiss Franc	1.2408	1.2415
French Franc	6.7765	6.7855**
Japanese Yen	98.22	98.19
European Currency Unit	1.3399	1.3391**

(\*) Per S.D. (\*\*) European (Pound) = 100 S.D. = 100

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### AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

ORGANIZED MARKET TRADING ACTIVITY FOR THE PERIOD (19/07/1994)

WEEKLY REPORT

COMPANY'S NAME

TRADING VOLUME

PERCENT

OPENING PRICE

CLOSING PRICE

AMMAN NATIONAL BANK

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## Sacchi settles on Italian recipe

LOS ANGELES (AFP) — Arrigo Sacchi's chopping and changing has driven the Italian fans to distraction but he seems to have come up with the winning blend for Sunday's World Cup final against Brazil.

"I've had to change the team around many times because of injury and because there were tactical or technical things I was not satisfied with," he said.

He has used 20 players in six games but he might have been tempted to stick to the semifinal side if Alessandro Costacurta had not been suspended for his second final this year. He also missed the European Cup final.

That might allow Franco Baresi, who needed arthroscopic surgery on his right knee 20 days ago after the dramatic win over Norway, to return to captain the side.

Paoletti Maldini had moved from left back to centre of the defence to fill in for his AC Milan club-mate.

However, if Sacchi is not convinced Baresi is fully fit then Luigi Apolloni, the Parma captain, should get his first start since the first-round game against Mexico.

Sacchi's biggest concern is Roberto Baggio who has virtually singlehandedly put Italy in the final with five goals in his last three games.

He limped off with a slight hamstring strain after an hour of Wednesday's 2-1 win over Bulgaria in their semifinal but his absence would be unthinkable.

Sacchi relishes the prospect of Sunday's challenge.

"I'd be lying if I said I had not dreamt of this final," he said.

"I have great respect for Brazilian soccer. Every time they win it is a triumph not just for Brazil but for the game itself."

However, he thought the present Brazil side played with more commitment under coach Carlos Alberto Parreira.

"They played very hard," he said of Brazil's performance in the semifinal against Sweden.

"They created many more chances and stock prices for win although it took a mistake by Sweden for them to do it."

Sweden's tired defenders allowed Romario a free header at the far post for the winner and Sacchi said mistakes could prove decisive.

"If due to fatigue a team loses its shape and ability to pressurise the opposition, anything can happen," he said.

That's the time Baggio or Romario could be at their most dangerous.

Italy made a disastrous start to the tournament, losing 1-0 to Ireland and no team has gone on to win the Cup after losing their opening match.

Dino Baggio scored the winner against Norway when goalkeeper Gianluca Pagliuca was sent off. Daniele Massaro earned a point against Mexico and Italy qualified only because they had scored two goals in three games to Norway's one.

But just as in Spain in 1982 when Paolo Rossi's goals inspired Italy to their third title, Baggio finally started to live up to his reputation with two goals against Nigeria when Italy were within a minute of going out.

Both Baggios scored in the quarterfinal win over Spain and Roberto's two in five minutes knocked out Bulgaria.

Dino Baggio, had who to go off early in the second half against Bulgaria with cramp, will be fit.

## WorldCupUSA



### Today's match

Sweden will play Bulgaria for the third place at Pasadena, Calif. at 22.35 Amman time.

Mauro Tassotti's eight-match ban for breaking Luis Enrique's nose in an off-the-ball incident at the end of the quarter-final against Spain, forced Sacchi into one of three changes for the semifinal.

Roberto Mussi, who missed the Spain game because of an ankle injury, came in for Tassotti at right back and should keep his place on Sunday.

Inter Milan's Nicola Berti replaced Antonio Conte on the right of midfield and Pierluigi Casiraghi partnered Roberto Baggio up front instead of Daniele Massaro.

Giuseppe Signori, the top scorer in the Italian league for the last two seasons, is again likely to be sitting on the substitutes bench because Sacchi wants him to play in an unaccustomed wide midfield role.

All Italy will be hoping that Sacchi's recipe is a success.

Italy's probable team: Gianluca Pagliuca, Roberto Mussi, Luigi Apolloni, Alessandro Costacurta, Paolo Maldini, Antonio Benarrivo, Nicola Berti, Dino Baggio, Demetrio Albertini, Roberto Donadoni, Roberto Baggio, Pierluigi Casiraghi.

## Joy in Rio, Rome as Brazil, Italy reach final

PASADENA (R) — Soccer proved an antidote for many ills Thursday as politicians, fans and even stock prices from Rome to Romania and Bulgaria to Brazil drew strength from the World Cup — in victory and defeat.

Brazil, where soccer is a unifying passion for a country beset by economic problems, exulted over Wednesday's 1-0 semifinal win over Sweden at the Pasadena Rosel Bowl and the prospect of their first World Cup final since 1970.

Italy, their opponents in the same stadium Sunday, beat Bulgaria 2-1 at the Giants Stadium near New York to restore a sense of pride to a country stripped of its national pride after two years of political corruption.

But Italian euphoria was tempered by news that hero Roberto Baggio, who scored both goals for the triple champions Wednesday, has only a 50-50 chance of playing in the final, Italy's first since 1982.

"I fear that we won't know until a few hours before the game whether he will play," team doctor Andrea Ferretti said in Martinsville, New Jersey. Baggio has a strained hamstring.

"Saint Baggio of New York," said La Voce newspaper in Italy, summing up the star's importance.

Bulgaria may have lost to Italy but police in Sofia said the country had won in another way — the crime rate dropped during the tournament. Swedish fans were subdued in Stockholm but proud to have gone down by just one goal to Brazil.

In Bucharest, the losing quarterfinalists returned to Romania as heroes, having done in 40 days what the government had failed to achieve in nearly five years since shaking off Stalinist dictatorship — put a smile on the nation's face.

"They showed the world who we are, we are proud of them," said school student Andrei Gheorghe as crowds chanted "we love you, we love you" at the team.

In the United States, semifinals winners and losers had at least two days to gather their strength before playing again.

Thursday and Friday were rest days ahead of Saturday's third-place playoff between Sweden and Bulgaria and Sunday's final, soccer's ultimate prize.

Both Brazil and Italy have won the title three times already, so on Sunday one of them will write a fresh record into the 64-year history of the World Cup.

Brazilian President Itamar Franco sent a congratulatory message to his country's team as newspapers there proclaimed "God is Brazilian" and stock prices surged four points. Even the government's fight against inflation took a back seat.

A rumbling roar of fireworks and the pulsing beat of samba rolled across Brazil's cities Wednesday night, a noise echoed in Italy, where fans splashed in fountains and danced on piazzas.

Even Albanians, whose team failed to qualify for the finals, are gripped by soccer fever.



Brazilian soccer fans cheer and dance in the streets of midtown Manhattan after a 1-0 win over Sweden in their semifinal match Wednesday. Dancing took place on 46th street where Brazilian New Yorkers regularly gathered to show their support for their team. Below, fans of the Italian soccer team stand outside the team hotel hoping to get a glimpse of the team before they leave for Pasadena. Italy will meet Brazil Sunday in the final. (AFP photos)



## Swedes out of finals but pleased to have gone so far

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — The Swedes are out, but reaching the World Cup semifinals still ranks as one of the biggest accomplishments in Swedish sports history.

Right's up there with Ingemar Johansson capturing the world heavyweight title at Yankee Stadium in 1959; Bjorn Borg's five straight Wimbledon titles; and Ingemar Stenmark's record 85 World Cup Alpine ski victories in slalom and giant slalom.

But it is not over yet for the Swedish soccer stars. Bulgaria is next up in a match for the bronze medal at the Rose Bowl Saturday.

Goalkeeper Thomas Ravelli made the save in the quarterfinals, but he could not stop Romario's header

that ended Sweden's unbeaten run in the World Cup.

The Swedish veteran, making his 116th appearance for Sweden to break the old team record set in 1979, kept the outplayed Swedes in Wednesday's semifinal against Brazil for 79 minutes with a series of sparkling saves.

But Brazil, which outshot the Swedes 15-1 in the first half and 29-2 for the match, deservedly earned a berth in Sunday's final against Italy, as Romario beat the tournament's most experienced keeper with a header 11 minutes from time.

"I couldn't leave my line when (defender) Jorgeinho hit the cross," Ravelli said. "I stood on my line. Romario

came between two defenders I think and was first at the ball. He made a very good header. It was impossible for me to save it."

Swedish coach Tommy Svensson said it was not a defensive mistake.

"They had a lot of good opportunities (to score) and we felt that the first team to score would win today's match," Svensson said. "I thought Ravelli was excellent as we (Tommas) Brodin."

Brodin, who led defending champion Parma of Italy in scoring en route to the European Cup Winners' Cup final against England's Arsenal six weeks before the World Cup started, was very disappointed.

"But they were clearly the

better team," he said. "They really deserved the victory. In sports, there's always a loser. I just have to congratulate Brazil."

Brodin, who set up striker Kennet Andersson for the first goal in a 1-1 tie with Brazil June 29 at Pontiac's Silverdome, said Colombian referee Jose Torres made a mistake when he ejected Swedish key midfielder Jonas Thern in the second half.

Thern, easily Sweden's best midfielder in the World Cup, received a red card after he fouled Brazilian midfielder Dunga in the 63rd minute when the game was still scoreless.

"It was a stupid mistake by the referee," Brodin said. "I don't think he saw what real-

ly happened. He just heard that Dunga screamed and ejected Jonas. A yellow card would have been enough."

Coach Svensson, who led Sweden to its best World Cup performance since the 1958 World Cup when Pele's Brazil beat Sweden 5-2 in the final at Stockholm, agreed. "I don't understand it," Svensson said. "It was too hard."

The Swedish players were surprised when they heard that a referee from Colombia, which borders Brazil, was assigned for the job.

"I think that the (Swedish) association should have filed a protest," Brodin said. "You bet that Brazil would have filed a protest if Dane Petter Mikkelsen or another European had been picked as ref."

## No going back to the future in football

LOS ANGELES (AFP) — With an epic World Cup final promised Sunday between Brazil and Italy, World Cup watchers cannot help comparing the teams to the two who fought it out in the 1970 final.

Gigi Riva, Italian football's greatest ever goalscorer, expects history to repeat itself.

"The Brazilian team in 1970 had better technical players," Riva said. "Nobody could argue with that when you remember they had players like Pele and Jairzinho in their team."

"But today's Brazilian side is very well organized, maybe even better organized than in

1970. They are the favourites and they know they are the favourites."

Mario Zagalo, who won the World Cup twice as a player in 1958 and 1962, and was handed the Brazilian coaching job on the eve of the 1970 finals, is now an assistant coach.

He has blasted critics back home who complain that Brazil's style this time around is too far from the free-wheeling style of Pele's team.

"That was a once in a lifetime team," he said, adding that a well organized defence was as crucial in today's game as attacking flair.

"Without that, you have

no chance," he said.

Riva believes that Italy, who have finished two of their six matches with ten men, will have to score first if they are to have any chance of beating Brazil.

Otherwise, their exhausted state could be crucial as it was in the 1970 final.

"In that match we equalised just before half time and at that moment we really believed we were in with a chance," recalled Riva, who is now 50.

"But just after the break Gerson scored that superb goal and we were completely demoralised. We had played an exhausting semifinal against Germany that went to

extra time and when that goal went in we just evaporated. We had nothing left."

Brazil went on to triumph 4-1 and become the first side to lift the trophy three times.

This Brazil team has suffered under the weight of expectations since well before the Cup began.

Zagalo recalled wryly that the 1970 team had no such problem.

"Before the 1970 World Cup, we were called idiots, no hopes and donkeys," he said. "Now the team is legendary. Maybe the same thing would happen if we won again."

While Zagalo was brought on board as an adviser by

coach Carlos Alberto Parreira, Riva, whose astonishing international record of 35 goals in 42 matches earned him the nickname Thunderclap, officially performs the role of team manager to the Italian squad.

But his most significant contribution is as a counsellor to Roberto Baggio, helping the Italian side's current superstar to cope with the intense pressure of carrying the country's expectations on his back.

The sight of a weeping Baggio embracing Riva at the end of Wednesday's semifinal win over Bulgaria was one of the most memorable images of USA 94.

"He has helped me enormously because he is one of the few people who can understand what I have to go through," Baggio said.

And Riva has no doubt that Italy's chances of emulating their 1982 counterparts, who beat Brazil 3-2 on their way to victory in Spain, lie largely at the feet of Baggio.



## German coach Vogts hints he could quit

BONN (R) — Germany's soccer coach Berti Vogts, under acute pressure since his side were dumped out of the World Cup in the quarterfinals by unfancied Bulgaria, has hinted that he is prepared to quit.

Vogts, who took over the side after they won the Cup in 1990, suggested the German Soccer Federation (DFB) had not given him enough support.

"One false statement from DFB headquarters, from whatever direction, could mean my resignation," he said in an interview published in Thursday's edition of the sports magazine Kicker.

Since the defeat, a stunning blow for a team which had played in every World Cup final since 1982, Vogts has said he still enjoyed his job, wanted to go on and had the backing of DFB President Egidius Braun.

But he told Kicker: "Perhaps it's siple for the DFB to get rid of Vogts, the focus of the criticism of the

DFB." Even before the defeat, Vogts and Braun had come under fire for sending home midfielder Stefan Effenberg for making an obscene gesture at the crowd.

But Vogts was unrepentant. "I always listened too much to what the players said. It was a mistake to take Effenberg. I should have thrown him out in 1992."

Vogts had harsh words for other players too. He said midfielder Andreas Moeller, who had been expected at last to show on the international scene the prodigious talent he displays for Juventus in Italy, "completely let down the team and myself."

Of Bodo Illner, the goalkeeper chosen for his World Cup experience but who was rooted to the spot when Bulgaria struck a crucial equaliser and who has now quit the national side, Vogts said: "It was as if he was on remote control. If he hadn't quit I'd have thrown him out."

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## Virenque wins Tour de France 12th stage

LUZ ARDIDEN, France (Agencies) — Richard Virenque claimed France's third consecutive stage win in the Tour de France, and Miguel Indurain extended his overall lead Friday as another top cyclist dropped out.

Claudio Chiappucci, of Italy, who has finished in the top six of the tour since 1990, dropped out before the start of the 12th stage, plagued by a virus.

The stage of 204 kilometres (127 miles) had two major climbs, the famous tourmalet, 2,115 metres (6,937 feet) and Luz Ardiden, 1,715 metres (5,625 feet).

Virenque pulled far ahead of the pack, and only Marco Pantani of Italy stayed within five minutes of him starting the final climb to Luz Ardiden.

Indurain and his Banesto teammates allowed Virenque and Pantani to gain the advantage because they trailed Indurain by more than 15 minutes each entering the day's leg.

Indurain came in more than seven minutes back but ahead of the main pack. His

main rival, Tony Rominger of Switzerland, lost more than three minutes to Indurain and is now 7:56 behind the three-time defending champion.

Chiappucci was more than 33 minutes behind in the overall standings when he decided to stop. He barely moved from his hotel room during the off day in Lourdes Thursday, suffering from what his team manager said was an intestinal virus.

"Claudio wanted to go as far as possible but with a stage that is without doubt the most difficult of the tour, it was unrealistic," said the manager, Davide Boifava.

Boifava said Chiappucci had a fever of more than 38 degrees C (100.4 F) Thursday evening.

Chiappucci barely finished the 11th stage from Lourdes to Mount Hautacam Wednesday, ending up more than 24 minutes behind.

Saturday's 13th stage is from Bagneres de Bigorre to Albi, 233 kilometres (145 miles).

Barring illness or accident, Indurain seems assured of his fourth consecutive tour title.

## Kennett calls for inquiry into sabotage of Olympics

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Victorian State Premier Jeff Kennett called Friday for a senate inquiry into the operations of the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC), sparking an angry response from AOC President John Coates.

Kennett told a news conference that he had ruled out a state inquiry into allegations that Melbourne's unsuccessful bid to host the 1996 Olympic Games was sabotaged from within.

The premier said a state probe not be able to establish whether a Sydney-based Olympic official had undermined Melbourne's bid, but said a federal inquiry was needed to examine the accountability of AOC and whether any AOC delegates had a conflict of interest.

"It is important for Australia to have confidence in the AOC, given it is funded with millions of public dollars," Kennett said.

Coates said Kennett's call for a senate inquiry was a "slur" on the AOC's integrity and said the holding of such an inquiry could affect Australia's ability to retain the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney.

The Sydney-based official, International Olympic Committee (IOC) delegate Phil Coles, was discovered to have made 44 telephone calls to his Atlanta counterparts during Melbourne's bidding process for the 1996 Games. Some Melbourne officials suspect him of passing key information to the Amer-

cians. Atlanta defeated Athens, Melbourne and Toronto to win the right to host the games, while Sydney last year won the right to host the games in 2000.

Coates acknowledges making the Atlanta calls, but says they were part of normal Olympic business. He pointed out that he also had made calls to the other cities bidding.

Kennett said he had spoken with a range of people associated with Melbourne's failed bid over the past few days, including former premiers John Cain and Joan Kirner.

"No information has come to light that would justify the setting up of an inquiry into the allegations of sabotage," he said.

"In the absence of substantial evidence it would be fruitless to establish an inquiry and commit what would have to be enormous sums of public money to properly fund such an investigation."

But the question of the AOC's public accountability was an entirely separate matter and must be investigated, he said.

"I am of the opinion that it is in the best interests of the AOC that a proper inquiry be established to review its operations," he said.

IOC Vice-President Kevan Gosper welcomed Kennett's decision not to hold a state inquiry and said he hoped it would be accepted "magnanimously by the people of Melbourne."

## Olympic volleyball site could be moved over anti-gay resolution

ATLANTA (AP) — Organisers of the 1996 Olympics, hounded for months over their decision to hold volleyball competition in a suburb that adopted an anti-gay resolution, are close to picking an alternate site.

Billy Payne, president of the Atlanta committee for the Olympic Games, said Wednesday that organisers are "very close" to confirming that a substitute arena would meet the criteria of being affordable, accessible and acceptable to athletes.

The preliminary rounds of volleyball are now scheduled for the Cobb Galleria Centre, a new convention center about 15 miles (23 kms) from downtown Atlanta. But the Cobb County commission's approval last year of a resolution condemning homosexuality has sparked a hailstorm of protest and put pressure on the committee to find another venue.

"We are disappointed that no compromise has been forthcoming between the Cobb County commission and the special interest groups involved in the debate there," Payne said after a meeting of the Olympic committee's board of directors.

"The lack of any movement toward resolving that situation gives even more urgency to our efforts to explore all possible alternatives," he said.

Payne's comments are his strongest to date. He previously has said only that Olympic organisers were considering other sites, while emphasising he considered the resolution on gays to be a local matter.

A decision on the volleyball site would be made by the end of the year, he said. Olympic gold medalist Greg Louganis, who is gay, last week urged officials to move volleyball out of Cobb County.

Leaders of a gay rights organisation, Olympics out of Cobb, held a news conference Thursday outside a downtown Atlanta Olympics souvenir store to urge Payne to pick another site now.

"Why make this a more divisive issue than it is already?" said Jon-Ivan Weaver, co-chairman of the group. "The Atlanta committee for the Olympic Games has been looking at sites for Olympic venues for several years now. They know the sites are available. They know they have another choice," Payne was in Washington Thursday and could not be reached for further comment.

Despite widespread criticism, Cobb commissioners have stood by the resolution that passed last August. The commission last month defeated a proposed companion resolution that affirmed the county's support for human rights.

The former world number one, who has suffered from a loss of form in big tournaments recently, needed less than two hours to crush Boetsch 6-3 6-2 7-6.

The Cannes hard court suited the Swede's serve and volley game and he proved faster, stronger and more precise from the baseline too.

Edberg, currently ranked seven in the world, broke Boetsch's serve twice in a row to win the first set in 39 minutes. The Frenchman, who had lost his six previous matches against Edberg, had no answer to the Swede's

aggressive volleying and sweated in the oppressive heat as he was sent scurrying about the court.

Edberg went 3-1 up in the second set before Boetsch's hard work paid off with a break of serve. But the Swede then won three games in a row to take the set.

Edberg, who crashed out of the French Open in the

first round in May and out of Wimbledon in the second round last month, relaxed in the third set offering Boetsch several opportunities to close the gap.

But the Frenchman, ranked 22 in the world, was too inconsistent to seize his chance and Edberg eventually won the match 7-4 on the tie-break.

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## Courier gives U.S. 1-0 lead in Davis Cup tie with Dutch

ROTTERDAM (R) — American Jim Courier gave his country a 1-0 lead over the Netherlands in their Davis Cup quarterfinal when he beat Richard Krajicek in straight sets 6-4 6-3 6-3 Friday.

Courier took the match on excellent returns and a steadier service. Krajicek scored only a few points on his second service.

In the second set Courier accelerated from the third game to win 12 points in a row, breaking the Dutchman in the fourth and taking a 4-1 lead. He won the set 6-3.

Krajicek managed a break in the third set to the pleasure of the 12,000 Dutch crowd, but Courier was not to be denied.

In Cannes, France, top-ranked Stefan Edberg beat France's Boetsch in straight sets Friday, to give his country a 1-0 lead in their Davis Cup quarterfinal tie.

The former world number one, who has suffered from a loss of form in big tournaments recently, needed less than two hours to crush Boetsch 6-3 6-2 7-6.

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Edberg, who crashed out of the French Open in the



Jim Courier

## Sutton in five million pound record signing for Rovers

BLACKBURN, England (AFP) — Chris Sutton signed Friday for Blackburn Rovers in a £5 million deal which shatters the British transfer record.

The 21-year-old England B striker has agreed a five-year contract with Rovers, which will keep him at Ewood Park until 1999.

After putting pen to paper and ending the most expensive auction in the history of British football, Sutton said: "I didn't speak to any other club."

Sutton, who scored 28 goals for Norwich last season, added that as long as a month ago he had made up his mind that he wanted to join Blackburn and their manager Kenny Daiglish.

"I'm just very pleased to end the speculation and sign for a club that is obviously going places," he explained.

"Blackburn were my first choice. The club is similar to Norwich in terms of population and area. I didn't want to move to a big city."

His arraignment is scheduled for July 21. "I am completely innocent," King said in a statement. "I will be cleared."

King, 62, is president of Don King Production Inc. He began his climb to celebrity from the gambling halls of Cleveland, Ohio and has had his share of run-ins with the law.

King was convicted of murder in 1954 but the charge was later reduced to manslaughter.

While serving time in Ohio's Marion Correctional Institute, King got his big break when he contacted Ali and went on to sign the boxing great and George Foreman to a \$10-million fight in Zaire in 1974.

Ali regained his title in that match and followed up the victory by defeating Joe Frazier in a rematch in 1975.

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## Lendl rallies to defeat Grabb in U.S. Pro Tennis Championships

BROOKLINE, Mass. (AP) — Ivan Lendl, sidelined since late May with back pain, returned Thursday night and rallied for a 4-6, 6-2, 6-3 win over Jim Grabb in the second round of the U.S. Pro Tennis Championships.

Lendl, who had not played since losing to Arnaud Boetsch in the first round of the French Open, was down a set and trailing 2-1 in the second set when he won six straight games.

"I just wasn't match tough. I didn't play any matches for 7 1/2 weeks," said Lendl, whose ranking has dropped to 29th in the world. "I was feeling better as the match went along. That's why I came here, to get in some matches."

Lendl, the top seed and two-time defending champion of the \$250,000 tournament, will face Mats Wilander in the quarterfinals in a battle of former no. 1 players.

Wilander won his second-round match 6-4, 6-4 against Glenn Weiner.

Grabb said it would be a mistake to write off Lendl just yet.

"He's a guy who was on top of the game for so long, who has lost a half a step or doesn't hit the ball as sharply as he used to," Grabb said. "But on any given day, he can recapture that form and he is very dangerous."

Patrick McEnroe, who has dropped just three games in two matches, took only 54 minutes to defeat Mike Zimmerman and reach the quarterfinals.

"What am I, Steffi Graf?" McEnroe joked after winning 6-2, 6-0 and displaying the dominance Graf usually shows in women's tennis.

McEnroe, seeded seventh, won the last 12 games in a 6-1, 6-0 defeat of Justin Gimelstob in 55 minutes in the first round.

McEnroe will face Jimmy Arias in the quarterfinals. Arias, a former teen star whose career has been riddled with injuries, won 2-6, 6-3, 6-2 over Mashiska Washington, whose older brother — Malivai Washington — is seeded third in the tournament.

Arias, whose world ranking has dropped to no. 176, is now a part-time player who was invited to the tournament at the last minute when other players dropped out.

The lack of playing time has hurt his tennis, but eased the pain of chronic injuries. Though he had ice packs on his right shoulder and right wrist after the match, he no longer has to wear knee braces.

"That's because I don't play now," he said. "I'm as healthy as a horse."

Fourth seeded Brad Gilbert was ousted in the second round, losing 6-4, 6-4 to South African David Nainkin. Nainkin will face Wally Masur of Australia in the quarterfinals.

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For more information call MMS tel: 08-540759. Applications obtained from: -Ministry of Tourism (front desk) -Italian Embassy (Cultural Department) -Tourist office in Madaba

Applications deadline is July, 30 1994.



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♥ 10 8 6 4  
♦ K 10  
♣ 8 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ K Q 9  
♥ Q 9  
♦ 7 5 2  
♣ K 10 9 7 5

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North East South West  
1♠ 1♥ 3NT Pass  
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Six of  
A multinational partnership, Eyalon Schaul of Israel and Michael Polwan of the U.S., produced stellar defense on this hand from the 27th annual Israel Bridge Festival.

Despite a five-card fit for opener's suit, hence a source of tricks and a double stopper in the enemy suit, we think three no trump is a distinct stretch. However, had South been content with inviting game by bid-

ding just two no trump, he would still have fallen victim to the defenders' skill.

West reasoned that South had to have spades well stopped, so cast about for more fertile fields. The lead of the six of diamonds proved to be a winner. There's no hurry about taking the finesse—if the king of diamonds is outside, the queen will be a trick later. The choice lay between playing low and rising with the ace and declarer chose wisely by putting up the ace.

Had East followed routinely with the ten declarer would have made the contract. After the ace of clubs was knocked out, East would have to win the second diamond and West would be an entry short to establish and run the suit. Polwan rose to the occasion by jettisoning the king of diamonds!

The queen and jack of clubs were ducked. West, winning the third round. Then came the killer—the jack of diamonds, pinning East's ten and permitting West to set up the diamonds while the ace of hearts was still in hand as an entry. There was no way to prevent the defenders from collecting three diamonds and three aces. Down two!

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Louis Gossett — in <b>MIDNIGHT STING</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30		Nabila Obeid and Farouk Al Fishawi in <b>Unveiling The Secrets</b> Arabic Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 5:00, 6:45, 8:30, 10:30		<b>CONCORD "1" THE CRUSH</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 <b>CONCORD "2" PERFECT WORLD</b> Shows: 12:30, 6:15, 10:30 <b>Mr. Jones</b> Shows: 3:30, 8:30		<b>INDECENT PROPOSAL</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30	Today & Everyday Abu Awwad in social comedy <b>"PUNCTURED BAG"</b>	Present their play: <b>WHAT A PEACE!</b> (Salar Ya Salam) Daily at 8:30 p.m. The theatre is closed on Tues days.	



## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Israelis want army to halt settler violence

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Six out of 10 Israelis believe the army should intervene to stop Jewish settlers from attacking Palestinians and their property, according to an opinion poll published Friday. However, 35 per cent, were against soldiers halting settler violence compared with 63 per cent in favour. Two percent voiced no opinion. Some 58 per cent also believed the army should clear roadblocks put up by settlers. Forty-one per cent were against and three per cent without opinion. And 58 per cent also said soldiers should stop settlers from illegally occupying empty houses on the West Bank. But 40 per cent were against military intervention. A week ago dozens of settlers squatted several empty apartments in Kiryat Arba, near Hebron, and pulled out only after the government ordered the army to evict them. The Dahaf institute questioned 505 Israelis last Tuesday and Wednesday for the poll which has a margin of error of four per cent.

## Police arrest 600 Palestinian workers

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — Police arrested 600 Palestinians from the Gaza Strip and West Bank this week who did not have permits to stay in Israel, police said. The Palestinians, arrested at construction sites and factories, each had to pay a 250-shekel (\$75) fine before being sent back to the West Bank or Gaza. Israeli employers had to pay the equivalent of \$700 for each illegal worker. Some 50,000 Palestinians have permits to stay and work in Israel — less than half the pre-Gulf war number.

## Bashir effects minor cabinet reshuffle

KHARTOUM (AFP) — Sudanese President Omar Bashir has carried out a minor cabinet reshuffle, appointing a new interior minister, Sudanese television revealed late Thursday. Following a presidential decree, Colonel Altayeb Ibrahim Muhammad Khair, formerly governor of Darfur, receives the interior portfolio, replacing General Abdul Rahim Muhammad Hussein. Gen. Hussein was named minister of presidential affairs, doing essentially the same job as the presidency secretary general, a lower-ranking post he had combined with the interior ministry. Kabshur Kokoi takes over the communications and tourism portfolio previously held by Ibrahim Nayl Edam. Mr. Kokoi moves from the ministry for social planning. Sen. Edam moves from the ministry for social planning. Sen. Edam was one of the 15 members of the Revolutionary Council that propelled Gen. Bashir to power five years ago but was dissolved last October.

## U.N. missile inspectors head for Iraq

MANAMA (R) — A United Nations inspection team left for Baghdad on Friday to study Iraq's missile research and development programme. A U.N. official said. Spokesman Roud Ohsaid said the 10-member team, headed by Norbert Reinecke of Germany, would stay in Iraq for 10 days. U.N. teams are pressing to set up long-term monitoring of Iraqi facilities related to its banned weapons systems, a prerequisite to easing or lifting an oil and trade embargo.

## Egypt to expel Kuwaiti linked to militants

CAIRO (AFP) — Egypt planned to expel a Kuwaiti accused of financing Islamic militant groups bent on overthrowing President Hosni Mubarak's secular government, a source close to the security services said. Abdul Rahman Al Mejbal was arrested here in March when "he gave two Egyptians money for families of militants killed in clashes with security services," the source said. The Kuwaiti told a state prosecutor he had "been sent by a Kuwaiti Islamic organisation to check up on charity projects financed by this group in some Egyptian provinces," the source said. Islamic fundamentalists in Kuwait said Mr. Mejbal had been given a permit from the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry and did charity work in Egypt. Several Kuwaiti officials visiting Egypt recently urged authorities here to release Mr. Mejbal, a Kuwaiti diplomat said. In an editorial here, the pro-government daily Al Ahras said "Egypt protested about the way aid was given by charity associations from the Arab country," referring to Kuwait. Egypt wants such aid to be distributed through official channels "so that it is not directed in support of fundamentalism," wrote the newspaper's managing editor, Ibrahim Nafee, who is close to Mr. Mubarak. During a tour of Arab Gulf monarchies including Kuwait last year Mr. Mubarak urged the authorities to monitor more carefully fundraising by non-government religious groups. He warned the money could fall into the hands of Islamic militants in Egypt.

## Jordan accepts U.S. invitation

(Continued from page 1)

Referring to the Armed Forces, the King said: "We are doing the impossible to be able to carry out a strong Armed Forces and any extra roles in the able to carry out its national world."



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## Qouriea seeks to allay Jordanian concern, but Amman remains sceptical

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordanian officials remained sceptical Friday over prospects for economic cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) despite efforts by a senior PLO official to reassure the Kingdom that the organisation remained committed to such relations.

Ahmad Qouriea, the minister of economy in the Palestine National Authority (PNA) in autonomous Gaza and Jericho, made a 48-hour stopover in Amman before heading for Jericho on Thursday. The visit was billed private.

PLO sources said Mr. Qouriea, better known as Abu Alaa, had no mandate to hold formal talks here on economic ties with Jordan and as such no official meetings were held.

However, Abu Alaa told reporters before he headed for Jericho that he used his presence in the country to contact Jordanian officials personally and over the phone to affirm the PLO's commitment to the Jan. 7 economic agreement it signed with the Kingdom.

Abu Alaa, one of the architects of the Sept. 13 self-rule agreement between the PLO and Israel, did not identify the Jordanian officials he contacted. There was no formal Jordanian comment.

Abu Alaa rejected suggestions that a draft accord the two sides drew up in May was a "new" agreement and insisted that it was part of the Jan. 7 agreement, which gave Jordan a strong say in the economy, banking and monetary affairs of the occupied territories until PLO institutions were set up.

Abu Alaa said the May draft was under "serious consideration and will be finalised soon" at a meeting of "the two leaderships."

However, he declined to specify any timing for the expected signing.

"There are no differences between the two leaderships or the Jordanian and Palestinian people," Abu Alaa said. "Their relations do not depend on any agreements, whether written or otherwise."

However, the reassurances appeared to have fallen short of their target if only because of the very nature of the PLO leadership and the current state of its relations with Jordan.

"It is known that Abu Alaa favours strong economic ties with Jordan and would like to see the accord signed," said a senior Jordanian source, "but that does not mean that higher-ups in the PLO share this view."

It was a reference to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, who reportedly is very critical of the accord that Abu Alaa helped draft in May outlining the modalities of Jordanian-Palestinian economic cooperation.

According to Palestinian sources, Mr. Arafat and a few of his close aides, including political department head Farouk Kaddoumi, the PLO chairman's deputy in the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction (PECDAR), see the accord as limiting their options and giving Jordan what they see as a more-than-essential role in the economy of the Palestinians.

Particularly opposed by the critics are Jordanian suggestions that the PLO open an account at the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) in dinars to handle international aid expected to be channelled to the autonomous territories and the CBJ be given a role in licensing all commercial banks in the occupied territories, the sources said.

"It is highly unlikely that the PLO leadership will accept these suggestions," said one of the sources.

International experts and diplomats say the Jordanian suggestions are very valid, given the fact that the Jordanian dinar is one of the prominent currencies in circulation in the occupied territories and almost every bank there would be operating accounts in dinars.

"Obviously, Mr. Arafat has his own approach, and that is not compatible with the argument that Jordan has to have a strong say in the occupied lands by virtue of its currency," said a foreign diplomat.

"In any case, the whole nature of the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship at the leadership level is under clouds," added the diplomat, expressing an opinion that is widely shared among Jordanians.

Abu Alaa restated on Thursday that the PLO leadership was preoccupied with the "political developments" and that this was one of the main reasons for the delay in ratifying the May accord.

That justification, heard quite often in the past two months from Tunis, has not gone down well with Jordan, which is anxious to know where the Kingdom stands in terms of economic cooperation between the two banks of the River Jordan.

Jordanian officials have conveyed their views to the PLO through different channels and sought a clear PLO position on the draft. But, analysts and diplomats say, a definite answer could come only from Mr. Arafat, and he is not talking about the agreement either.

Doubts were cast on the implementation of the Jan. 7 accord when Israel and the PLO signed an agreement in Paris in April outlining modalities and mechanisms for economic ties between the Jewish state and the autonomous territories.

The Israel-PLO accord, (Continued on page 3)

## Lifting of Iraq sanctions will hurt Algeria — U.S.

PARIS (R) — A senior U.S. official said on Friday the fear of destabilising Algeria through a world drop in oil prices was a key reason why Washington opposed lifting international sanctions against Iraq.

He said allowing Iraq back into the international oil market would push prices down to \$10-\$12 a barrel from a current level of around \$16.

The official, briefing reporters on U.S. policy in the Near East and North Africa, said: "If... you were to allow Iraq to the international oil market, in six months Iraq would probably be exporting between one and a half and two million barrels a day."

"In 18 months they would be exporting three million barrels a day... this would drive the international price of oil down somewhere, my guess is, between \$10 and \$12 a barrel," he said.

"What would this do to Algeria? Would this not completely undermine or tend to undermine policies of countries which are trying to support Algeria and bring it out of this chaos that they are in now," the official said.

He spoke as U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Robert Pelletreau visited Paris for talks with French officials about coordinating moves on issues like Algeria and Iraq.

The U.N. Security Council is to meet later this month for

discussions on Iraqi compliance with the terms ending the 1991 Gulf war over Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

The head of a U.N. commission on Iraqi disarmament, Rolf Ekeus, told the Security Council on Wednesday that long-term mechanisms to monitor Iraq's military capacity could soon be in place.

"It is a major success for the council what has been done so far. The monitoring and verification procedures should be fully in place in September," Mr. Ekeus told the council, according to U.N. spokesman Joe Sillis.

"The government of Iraq is doing a good job," Mr. Sillis quoted Ekeus as saying. The U.N. team's long-term verification and control of Iraq's military capacity is expected to begin in late September but it will take six months to test the apparatus, the Swedish diplomat told the U.N. Security Council in a closed-door session.

That means it will be March before the U.N. team will be able to report to the council on the results of its labours, Iraq, which is hoping that the oil embargo will soon be lifted has been cooperating with the United Nations in installing cameras and other devices which can be used to monitor Iraq's weapon programmes.

The Security Council is expected to reexamine the sanctions before Monday but has

ruled out any immediate modifications in the sanctions regime, Western diplomats said.

Setting up the long-term monitoring procedure is the single portion of the ceasefire agreement not in place.

In a report to the U.N. Security Council, Mr. Ekeus said that all weapons of mass destruction revealed by Iraq had been dismantled by the U.N. team shortly after the Gulf war ended in 1991.

"Declared or otherwise identified chemical weapons, precursors and means for their production have been destroyed," the report said. Declared biological research facilities were also closed and biological strains of concern to the commission disposed of.

"The commission now believes that it has a credible accounting for all of Iraq's missiles with a range greater than 150 kilometres and that such missiles remaining in Iraq after the termination of hostilities have been destroyed," the report said.

Mr. Ekeus said that uncertainties persisted about Iraq's military programmes before the Gulf war since Baghdad has insisted that paperwork on the programme was destroyed.

"It has been necessary to resort to other and more time-consuming procedures to verify Iraq's accounts of its past programmes," said Mr. Ekeus.

## Christopher to devote intense work to Israel-Syria track

WASHINGTON (USIA) — State Department spokesman Michael McCurry on Thursday cautioned reporters not to anticipate any type of "breakthrough" during Secretary of State Warren Christopher's trip to the Middle East this week "because the distance between the parties is great."

Noting there have been "enormously positive developments within the region," such as the implementation of the Israeli-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) declaration of principles and international assistance that is going into the building of peace struc-

tures, McCurry said, "This is an opportunity for the secretary to review that progress; it is also an opportunity to review progress on the other tracks."

Mr. Christopher expects "that this step-by-step process will only take one more step, hopefully forward, as a result of this trip," McCurry added. The secretary is scheduled to leave Washington for the Middle East on July 17. Later he will fly to Bangkok to attend the Asean (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) post-ministerial consultations and to confer bilaterally with foreign ministers.

Mr. McCurry said "some type of trilateral meeting" could be expected "on the Jordanian track" of the Middle East peace process. Israeli officials have already said Christopher will meet with Israeli and Jordanian leaders July 20. "There will be some very careful and intensive work on the Israel-Syria track" of the negotiations as well, the spokesman said.

AFP adds: The Palestinians and Israelis on Monday will resume their talks in Cairo on extending Palestinian autonomy beyond Jericho and the Gaza Strip.



FLIGHT: A Rwandan refugee crosses the Zairean border at Goma with thousands of compatriots fleeing the Rwandan Patriotic Front advance on the northwestern Rwandan town of Gisenyi. Rwanda's interim government left Gisenyi for the southwestern town of Cyangugu, where the French intervention force in Rwanda is based (see page 5) (AFP photo)

## S. Korea, U.S. to avoid hasty response to North

SEOUL (Agencies) — North

Korea prepared the funeral this weekend of its "Great Leader" Kim Il-Sung while U.S. President Bill Clinton and his South Korean counterpart agreed to avoid hasty reaction to changes stemming from his death.

Mr. Clinton and South Korean President Kim Young-Sam talked by telephone for about 20 minutes on Friday, their first discussion since the North Korean president died a week ago, a Seoul presidential spokesman said.

"The two leaders agreed that they would cope with any changes in the North Korean situation by cooperating closely, prudently and without haste," the spokesman said.

Mr. Clinton informed Mr. Kim that Japanese Prime Minister Tomichi Murayama had told him during the G-7 summit Tokyo would maintain cooperation on North Korea with Seoul and Washington.

On Friday, Japan issued its annual defence white paper which said North Korea's long-range missiles and its suspected plans to develop nuclear, chemical and biological warheads posed a grave threat to Japan and the Far East.

Defence Ministry counselor Hirotsugu Ota said Japan had no contingency plans at present to counter a military threat from North Korea.

"But we would have to consider certain measures in the future if North Korea went ahead with its missile development," he said without elaborating.

The Seoul spokesman said Mr. Clinton and Mr. Kim had a "comprehensive but concrete" exchange to prepare for any changes in North Korea's political situation, nuclear policies and the suspended inter-Korean summit, but declined to give details.

Kim Il-Sung's sudden death last Friday came at a time of apparently easing tension between North Korea and the West, raising questions as to whether the process will be continued under new leaders in Pyongyang.

Kim Il-Sung had been due to meet Kim Young-Sam for an unprecedented inter-Korean summit in Pyongyang on July 25, which was seen as a major opportunity to end cold war enmity that has persisted since the division of

Korea in 1945. Seoul has said it is willing to pursue the summit once Kim Il-Sung's successor has established himself as leader.

Pyeongyang notified Seoul on Monday it wished to postpone the summit indefinitely because of Kim's death.

Pyeongyang also postponed high-level talks with the United States intended to resolve the dispute over its suspected development of nuclear arms, but has indicated arrangements could be made to resume negotiations after Mr. Kim's funeral on Sunday.

Seoul officials believe North Korea will confirm Kim Jong-Il, Kim Il-Sung's son and designated successor, as its undisputed leader and say there are signs reforms might be climbing the hierarchy of the reclusive communist state.

South Korea meanwhile hardened its position against citizens mourning the late Kim, while Pyongyang broke a tacit truce and resumed attacks on the Southern leadership.

The United States, meanwhile, informed South Korea overnight that Washington had instructed all officials not to make consulatory remarks on Kim Il-Sung's death, a South Korean foreign ministry spokesman said.

Japan has also told its government officials not to express condolences over Kim's death, apparently at the request of South Korea.

The U.S. and Japanese moves came as South Korea issued a manhunt order for some 100 activist students in the southwestern city of Kwangju, who were suspected of setting up an altar to mourn Kim Il-Sung.

Meanwhile, Overseas Koreans visiting Pyongyang for Kim Il-Sung's funeral were received by Kim Jong-Il.

The visitors reportedly included pro-Pyeongyang ethnic Koreans from Japan, a well-connected Korean American businesswoman, and anti-Seoul activists.

The altar in Kwangju was found when some 1,200 riot policemen stormed Channam University to break up a sit-in by striking workers of Kumho Tyre Co. early Friday, triggering a pitched battle with teargas.

Police detained 20 including two of the striking workers of South Korea's largest tyre manufacturer, in Kwangju.

## COLUMN

## Queen Elizabeth's niece marries former actor

LONDON (AP) — Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones, the daughter of Princess Margaret, was married to former actor Daniel Chatto. Thursday in a simple ceremony at an out-of-the-way church in London. The wedding was a small, family affair, but crowds of photographers and curiosity-seekers choked the pavement outside the Church of St. Stephen, Walbrook for a glimpse of the famous relatives. Lady Sarah, a 30-year-old artist, avoids the limelight but has been seen regularly with Mr. Chatto for about seven years. Mr. Chatto, 37, who appeared in several films, is now an artist. The bride, in a simple, flowing white gown and veil, arrived with her father, the photographer Lord Snowdon. A cheer went up for Princess Diana, and a few minutes later a big cheer went to her estranged husband Prince Charles and his grandmother the Queen Mother, who arrived in the same limousine. Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip — the bride's aunt and uncle — looked happy and relaxed. Princess Margaret, the queen's only sister, chatted amiably with her ex-husband Lord Snowdon. Also there were the bride's brother, furniture designer Lord Linley, the queen's son Prince Edward and his girlfriend Sophie Rhys-Jones, and the queen's daughter Princess Anne, whose daughter Zara, 13, was a bridesmaid. The 17th century church, built by Sir Christopher Wren in what is now the financial district, seats about 200 people in a circle around the altar. The reception was held at Clarence House, the London home of the bride's grandmother, the Queen Mother. Although they are grandchildren of King George VI, Lady Sarah and her brother are commoners. Under rules drawn up by King George V in 1917, children of a sovereign's daughter do not become their royal highnesses. Princess Anne's children are plain Peter and Zara Phillips. As Princess Margaret once observed: "My children are not royal, their aunt just happens to be the queen." In the evening, Daniel and Lady Sarah Chatto flew to Delhi, India, on a scheduled British Airways flight from London's Heathrow Airport.

## Yeltsin has cold, misses meeting

MOSCOW (R) — President Boris Yeltsin missed a meeting of the Russian government Friday because of a cold, a spokesman said. "He has a simple cold and all his meetings have been postponed to next week. The president is in Moscow but not working in the Kremlin," the spokesman said. Mr. Yeltsin, 63, had been scheduled to take part in a government meeting Friday morning. Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin was due to report on economic results of the first six months of the year.

## French first lady hospitalised

PARIS (AP) — Danielle Mitterrand has been hospitalised for tests and was to undergo surgery for an undisclosed disorder, a spokeswoman for the French first lady said. Mrs. Mitterrand, 69, was admitted to a hospital about two weeks ago and the operation was expected "in the coming days" after the tests are completed, the spokeswoman said in a telephone interview on customary anonymity. The spokeswoman declined to elaborate on Mitterrand's health problem or characterise its seriousness. But she added: "Any operation is serious for a person of that age." Reporters asked about her absence at the traditional Bastille Day garden party Thursday at the Elysee Palace, the official residence of President Francois Mitterrand. As president of France-Libertes, a humanitarian and human rights foundation, Mrs. Mitterrand has refused to accept the traditional low-profile role of the French first lady since her husband was elected in 1981.

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